

# RG104 Entry 216

## Volume 6 with Index

January 18, 1842 – January 21, 1845

Letters sent and received by the Secretary of the Treasury relating to Branch Mints.

Documents are in rough chronological order but are not necessarily separated by Branch Mint facility or subject.

Blank sheets and routine endorsements have been omitted. Annotations and addenda sheets have been digitized as they appear in the originals.

Some documents might duplicate those in RG104 Entry 1 but no specific identification has been attempted.



RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF  
THE MINT

Records of the Office of the  
Secretary of the Treasury

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM BRANCH  
MINTS ("V" SERIES), 1834-1873

Vol. 06 of 2<sup>2</sup>

NC-152; Entry 216



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Deposits

(Dollars)

(Drafts)

Dahleneya

Director

Deposits

(Deposits)

(Director)

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"

Deposits

Deposits

(Drafts)

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Dahleneya



|         |                                                                                                        |                         |
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Value of Foreign Coin

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1

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 18, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,

the Letter to be arranged according to date  
to the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1846 -

Mint at Philadelphia

Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C.

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Sachlenaga Ga

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To,

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of Treasury.

Director.

(P.S. - The annual report will be sent to  
you tomorrow.



1

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 18, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a statement of the operations of the Mint and its Branches, in the month of December last.

It is proper to state that, owing to an error in the reports from the Branch Mint at Charlotte, the amount of coinage given for that Mint, in my annual report, will be greater than my several monthly reports would indicate.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of Treasury.

P.S. — The annual report will be sent to you tomorrow.



2

Min<sup>tr</sup> of the United States.  
Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a copy of my annual report to the President, forwarded by the present mail. I do not send you copies of the tabular statements accompanying and forming part of the report, as they will, no doubt, be laid before you by the President himself.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Wm. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Copy.

3

Mint of the United States,  
January 19th, 1842.

Sir:

In compliance with the law requiring from me an annual report on the operations of the Mint and its Branches, I have now the honor to submit to you the following statement.

The coinage executed at the Mint, in 1841, amounted to \$1,304,199, comprising \$710,475 in Gold, \$577,750 in Silver, and \$15,974 in Copper coins, and composed of 5,051,831 pieces. (Statement A.)

The deposits of gold within the year amounted to \$715,173, and those of silver to \$562,446. Of the gold, \$248,478 was derived from the mines of the United States; and, for the first time, deposits of silver have also been received from the same source. The ore is an argenti-ferous carbonate of lead, found in Davidson County, North Carolina, and the proprietors of the mine seem confident that it will be largely productive. (Statements B. and C.)

The public funds in our vault, amount at present to but \$104,960.94, - \$284,237.31 having been withdrawn



during the year, on Treasury drafts. Were it not that the deposits of bullion are much less than in former years, this sum would be quite inadequate to secure the very desirable object of a prompt return to depositors in coins.

At the New Orleans Branch Mint, the coinage in 1841 amounted to \$640,200, comprising \$85,200 in gold, and \$555,000 in silver coins, and composed of 3,693,730 pieces, of which 2,822,500 were dimes and half dimes. (Statement D.)

The deposits for coinage amounted to \$58,767 in gold, and \$535,775 in silver. (Statement E.)

The Branch Mint at Charlotte received, during the year, deposits of gold to the value of \$132,588, and its coinage amounted to \$133,037.50, composed of 21,467 half-eagles, and 10,281 quarter-eagles. (Statements D. & E.)

The Branch Mint at Savannah received deposits of gold to the value of \$161,974, and coined 30,495 half-eagles, and 4,164 quarter-eagles, amounting together to \$162,885. (Statements D. and E.)

The principal Mint and its Branches have been all in good condition throughout the year, and there has been no unusual interruption in their operations; but, in



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consequence of the small supply of bullion, they have been only partially employed, so that the amount of work done by them has fallen far below what they are able to execute. The whole coinage of all the Mints was less than two and a quarter millions, while the Philadelphia Mint alone is capable of coining twelve millions, and, in 1836, did actually coin more than seven and three quarters.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

With great respect,

Your faithful servant,

(signed) R. M. Patterson,

Director of the Mint.

To the President  
of the United States.



4

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 22d, 1842.

Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt,  
on the 19th inst., of a package of Coins, for  
the annual assay, sent from the Branch Mint  
at Dahlburga, and transmitted under your  
pencil; — also of a similar package, received  
this day, in the same manner, from New-  
Orleans.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To  
Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



5 1.

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 22, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., transmitting a copy of a series of questions proposed by the Committee of the House of Representatives on Public Expenditures, and requesting me to furnish you with the information which they require.

The first three questions have regard to the amount and cost of coinage at the Mint and Branch Mints respectively.

The amounts of coinage are presented in the enclosed statements A. & B.

In a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, communicated to the House of Representatives on the 23<sup>d</sup> of March, 1838, I have given an estimate, drawn from actual experience and prepared with much care, of the expense of coinage at this Mint. Of this communication I send you a copy. It presents the best answer which it is in my power to give to the first query of the Committee, and will also be found to contain other information pertinent to the subject of their inquiry. I have caused the table at page 4 to be completed to the present time, by the addition of the results of our experience for the four



2.

years that have elapsed since the report was made.

These results will be found to confirm, in a very satisfactory manner, the estimates given in the first members of the table at page 6. Our machinery and our processes, of working have been so much improved, and the amount of wastage so much diminished, that I am convinced the last estimates of this table, giving the costs of large annual coinages, ought now to be materially reduced.

The actual cost of coining \$100 worth, at the Philadelphia Mint, was, for 1838, \$1.52, - for 1839, \$2.07, - for 1840, \$2.48, - and for 1841, \$4.34; the average of the four years being \$2.23.

The cost of coining \$100 worth, at the New Orleans Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$154.06, - for 1839, \$19.72, - for 1840, \$5.68, - and for 1841, \$8.12. The first of these should be excluded, and perhaps the second, as any foundation for a judgment respecting this Mint. The average for the last two years, was \$6.68.

The cost of coining \$100 worth, at the Charlotte Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$17.82, - for 1839, \$9.03, - for 1840, \$9.44, - and for 1841, \$9.02; the average of the four years being \$10.59, and that of the last three \$9.16.

The cost of coining \$100 worth at the Dahlberg Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$12.43, - for 1839, \$10.78, - for 1840, \$9.32, - and for 1841, \$6.06; the average of the four years being \$9.47, and that of the last three \$8.49.



The Committee ask the cost of executing each variety of coinage, - eagles, half-eagles, &c., down to cents. I have not the means of giving an explicit answer to this question; but I may state, in general, that there is much more labor and expense, in coining a given value in small coins than in large, and that the cost of coinage is more nearly proportional to the number of pieces than to their entire value. (See Note.)

In their fourth question, the Committee ask the entire annual cost to the government of the principal Mint and the three Branches. I cannot, I believe, give a more satisfactory reply to this question, than by presenting the following statement of the average annual expense of each of these Mints for the last four years. That for the Philadelphia Mint is derived from the actual expenditures, those for the Branch Mints from the annual appropriations. The results are:

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| For the Mint at Philadelphia, | \$59,000. |
| " Do. " New Orleans,          | 54,500.   |
| " Do. " Charlotte,            | 13,425.   |
| " Do. " Dahlonega,            | 12,270.   |

The mean of the last four annual appropriations for the Philadelphia Mint is only \$52,200; the excess of cost having been paid out of the unexpended



4.) balances of former years.

In the fifth question the Committee ask whether "the capabilities of the Mint at Philadelphia are equal to the execution of all the coinage now furnished by it and the Branch Mints." To this question I give unhesitatingly an answer in the affirmative. In the years 1834, 1835, and 1836, the coinage at Philadelphia was \$7,388,423, \$5,568,667, and \$7,764,900. - In the years 1839, 1840, & 1841, since the Branch Mints have been in full operation, the whole coinage, at the four Mints, has been \$3,576,467, \$3,426,132, and \$2,240,321.

The sixth question asks an opinion from yourself, in which I am not called upon to interfere or advise.

To the seventh and eighth questions, I answer that the operations of the Mint at Philadelphia are never, properly speaking, suspended. The officers and men are always required to be in their places, and there is never a day that some of them are not employed. Indeed the labors of the Treasury and Assay Departments have increased of late years; since, although the amount of deposits is less, their number is greater than heretofore. Still, when an institution, which is capable of a coinage of twelve millions, coins less than two, it is unnecessary to say that there is a great deal of time unoccupied. - The same case is also presented at the Branch Mints; but it is only at



the New Orleans Mint that the operations have been actually suspended, and this has occurred every summer since it went into operation.

Very respectfully,

Yours faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Note. It may be of interest that I should add to the above paragraphs on the cost of coinage, the following statements.

The cost of coining 100 pieces of coin, at the Philadelphia Mint, was, for 1838, \$0.39, - for 1839, \$0.67, - for 1840, \$0.79, - and for 1841, \$1.12; the average for the four years being 114 cents.

The cost of coining 100 pieces, at the New Orleans Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$15.40, - for 1839, \$2.99, - for 1840, \$1.50, - and for 1841, \$1.41.

The cost of coining 100 pieces, at the Charlotte Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$72.18, - for 1839, \$35.30, - for 1840, \$37.70, - and for 1841, \$37.79.

The cost of coining 100 pieces, at the St. Louis Branch Mint, was, for 1838, \$67.04, - for 1839, \$42.62, - for 1840, \$43.51, - and for 1841, \$28.50.



B.

Statement of the amounts coined annually at the Branch Mints, from the commencement of their operations until December 31, 1841.

| Mints & Periods.              | Gold.   |              |           |                     |            |                     | Silver.       |           |           |             |                       |            | Total.         |             |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
|                               | Eagles. | Half-eagles. | Quarters. | Total Gold Coinage. |            | Total Gold Coinage. | Half-dollars. | Quarters. | Dimes.    | Half-dimes. | Total Silver Coinage. |            | Whole Coinage. |             |
|                               | Pieces. | Pieces.      | Pieces.   | Number.             | Value.     |                     | Pieces.       | Pieces.   | Pieces.   | Pieces.     | Number.               | Value.     | Number.        | Value.      |
| <u>Charlotte, N.C.</u> - 1838 | "       | 12,886       | 7,894     | 20,780              | \$2,165.   | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 20,780         | \$2,165.    |
| 1839                          | "       | 23,467       | 18,173    | 41,640              | 112,767.50 | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 41,640         | 162,767.50  |
| 1840                          | "       | 18,994       | 12,834    | 31,828              | 127,055.-  | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 31,828         | 127,055.    |
| 1841                          | "       | 21,467       | 10,281    | 31,748              | 133,037.50 | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 31,748         | 133,037.50  |
| Total,                        | "       | 76,814       | 49,182    | 125,996             | 507,025.   | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 125,996        | 507,025.    |
| <u>Washington, D.C.</u> 1838  | "       | 20,583       | "         | 20,583              | 102,915    | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 20,583         | 102,915.    |
| 1839                          | "       | 18,939       | 13,174    | 32,613              | 128,880    | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 32,613         | 128,880.    |
| 1840                          | "       | 22,896       | 3,532     | 26,428              | 123,310    | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 26,428         | 123,310.    |
| 1841                          | "       | 30,495       | 4,164     | 34,659              | 162,885    | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 34,659         | 162,885.    |
| Total,                        | "       | 92,913       | 21,370    | 114,283             | 517,990    | "                   | "             | "         | "         | "           | "                     | "          | 114,283        | 517,990.    |
| <u>New Orleans,</u> 1838,     | "       | "            | "         | "                   | "          | "                   | "             | 402,430   | "         | 402,430     | 402,430.              | 402,430.   | 402,430        | 402,430.    |
| 1839                          | "       | "            | 7,396     | 7,396               | 23,490     | 116,000             | "             | 1,291,600 | 1,060,000 | 2,467,600   | 240,160.              | 2,467,600  | 2,467,600      | 2,467,600.  |
| 1840                          | "       | 20,400       | 26,200    | 56,600              | 217,500    | 855,100             | 425,200       | 1,175,000 | 935,000   | 3,390,300   | 698,100.              | 3,446,900  | 915,600.       | 3,446,900.  |
| 1841                          | 2,500   | 8,350        | 7,380     | 18,230              | 85,200     | 401,000             | 1,520,000     | 2,027,500 | 815,000   | 3,675,500   | 535,000.              | 3,673,730  | 640,200.       | 3,673,730.  |
| Total.                        | 2,500   | 38,750       | 42,976    | 84,226              | 326,190.   | 1,372,100           | 877,200       | 4,876,530 | 2,810,000 | 9,935,830   | 1,533,505.            | 10,020,056 | 1,859,693.     | 10,020,056. |
| Sum of Totals,                | 2,500   | 208,477      | 113,528   | 324,505             | 1,351,205  | 1,372,100           | 877,200       | 4,876,530 | 2,810,000 | 9,935,830   | 1,533,505.            | 10,266,335 | 2,884,708      | 10,266,335. |



7

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 24, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt,  
under your frank, of the second and third packages  
of coins, for the annual assay, transmitted from  
the Branch Mint at New Orleans. The first was  
acknowledged in my letter of the 22<sup>d</sup>.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson,

(Director.)

To

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



WCK

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 25, 1842.

Sir,

As the Annual Assay is to be made at the Mint on the 14th of next month, I have the honor respectfully to request that you will ask the attention of the President to the appointment of the additional Commissioners provided for in the 32'd Section of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To,

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



(Private.)

9

Minist of the United States,  
Jan. 25, 1842.

Sir,

I send herewith an official request for the appointment of the Additional Commissioners for our approaching Annual Assay; and I take the liberty of suggesting the names of the Hon. John Bannister Gibson, Thomas P. Cope, Esq., and Professor James C. Booth.

Of Chief Justice Gibson I need not speak, — and you know that Mr. Cope has long been looked upon as the head of the Mercantile interest in Philadelphia. Mr. Booth is Professor of Chemistry applied to the Arts, in the Franklin Institute, — a man of science and of high character, and well acquainted with the operations which are to be submitted to his judgment.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson.

Yours

Hon. Walter Forward.



Philadelphia 1 February 1842

Sir

The Constitution of Pennsylvania declares, that "no member of Congress from this state, or any person holding or exercising any office or appointment of trust or profit under the United States, shall at the same time hold or exercise any office in the state to which a salary, or fee or perquisites are, attached." This clause seems to render an appointment such as that with which the president has pleased to honour me, incompatible with the office I now hold; and, I regret to say, it compels me to decline this mark of his consideration.

Accept, Sir the assurance of my esteem.

John B. Gibson

Honble. Walter Forward

Secretary of the Treasury

James M. Porter of Easton Pa



McK

11

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 1, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you enclosed,  
a new bond given by the Mitter & Refiners of  
the New Orleans Mint, and received from  
the Superintendent this morning.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Hon. Walter Forward,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Bond app. sent to the Comptroller  
3. Feb. 1842.



James M. Porter Esq  
 appointed 2 Feb. 1842.

— Mint of the United States,  
 Feb. 2, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 29th ult., transmitting letters of appointment to the gentlemen designated as the Extra-Commissioners to attend the annual assay at the Mint on the 14th inst. I have the pleasure to state that Mr. Cope and Prof. Booth have accepted their appointments; but unfortunately Chief Justice <sup>Gibson</sup> finds himself prevented from doing so, by a provision of the Constitution of Pennsylvania which declares an appointment of trust under the United States incompatible with the office of Judge under the State.

As the Chief Justice writes to me that he has informed you of the impossibility of his accepting the Place of Assay-Commissioner, I hope that some other individual may have been appointed by the President; but if no name has presented itself I will take the liberty of suggesting that of Charles Channey, Esq.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson.

To,

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
 Secretary of Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
February 11, 1842.

Sir,

In compliance with the provisions of the Acts of Congress of April 10, 1806, and of June 25 and June 28, 1834, I have the honor to submit the following report of the fineness, and of the value by weight, of certain gold and silver coins specified in these Acts.

I have repeatedly called attention to the circumstance that the Act of June 28, 1834 gave too high a valuation to foreign gold coins. To exhibit this fact in a clear point of view, I present the following comparison of the value of these coins per pennyweight, as established by the Act in question, and as shown by assays at the Mint.

| Gold Coins of     | Value by law. | Value by Assay. |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Great Britain     | 94.8 Cents.   | 94.62 cents.    |
| Portugal          | 94.8 "        | 94.46 "         |
| Brazil            | 94.8 "        | 94.46 "         |
| France            | 93.1 "        | 92.92 "         |
| Spain             | 89.9 "        | 89.51 "         |
| Mexico            | 89.9 "        | 89.51 "         |
| Colombia (Bogotó) | 89.9 "        | 89.92 "         |
| Do. (Popoyán)     | 89.9 "        | 88.68 "         |

The general over-valuation of foreign gold coins has its origin in two circumstances. The first is that the coins in question were assumed to reach their legal standard, — an assumption not confirmed by our assays. Thus for example, the fineness of the coins of Great Britain, Portugal, and Brazil, is estimated at 22 carats, (corresponding to 916 $\frac{2}{3}$  thousandths;) whereas our assays show the first to be but 915 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and the two last but 914 thousandths. —



A second cause of this over-valuation originates from the fact, that, by the law of Jan. 18, 1837, the standard of our gold coins was raised from 899.225 thousandths to 900, while their weight remained unaltered; so that pure gold in our coins is held at a somewhat less nominal value ~~since~~ the change of standard than it was before. A corresponding diminution was of course called for in the legal value given to the pure gold in foreign coins, but it has not yet been made.

The act of June 28, 1834, is therefore erroneous and impolitic, because it stamps a greater value upon foreign gold coins than upon our own, and thus misleads the public, and prevents recoinage; it is unnecessary, because the Mints of the United States are abundantly sufficient for all the gold coinage required for circulation; and it is inconvenient, because the foreign coins which it makes a legal tender do not correspond in value and denomination with our money of account. I would therefore beg leave, most respectfully to recommend that the act in question be repealed.

The act of June 25, 1834, making Spanish American dollars a legal currency at 100 cents each, and French five-franc pieces at 93 cents each, does not lead to any injustice that I am aware of.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

Copy  
Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



Report of the fineness, and value by weight, of certain gold and silver coins specified in the Act of Congress of April 10, 1806, and June 25, and 28, 1834.

| Gold Coins.                                                                        |  | Fineness in<br>Thousandths. | Value per<br>dwt.     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Great Britain, - Sovereign,                                                        |  | 915.5                       | 94.62 cts             |
| France, - Pieces of 40 and 20 francs,                                              |  | 899                         | 92.92 "               |
| Spain, - Doubloon & parts,                                                         |  | 866                         | 89.51 "               |
| Mexico, - Do.                                                                      |  | 866                         | 89.51 "               |
| Pew, - Do.                                                                         |  | 868                         | 89.71 "               |
| Chili, - Do.                                                                       |  | 868                         | 89.71 "               |
| Colombia, - Doubloons of Bogota,                                                   |  | 870                         | 89.92 "               |
| Do. Do. of Popoyan,                                                                |  | 858                         | 88.68 "               |
| New Granada, - Doubloons, 1834-'38,                                                |  | 871                         | 90.02 "               |
| Bolivia, - Do.                                                                     |  | 870                         | 89.92 "               |
| Central America, - Do                                                              |  | 830                         | 85.79 "               |
| La Plata, - Do.                                                                    |  | { 815 to<br>868             | { 84.24 to<br>89.71 " |
| Portugal, - Johannes & half,                                                       |  | 914                         | 94.46 "               |
| Do. Crown (of 5000 reis) & half since 1838,                                        |  | 914                         | 94.46 "               |
| Brazil, - Piece of 6,400 reis of 1838,                                             |  | 914                         | 94.46 "               |
| Silver Coins.                                                                      |  | Fineness in<br>Thousandths. | Value per<br>Ounce.   |
| Spain, - Dollar of the Peninsula,                                                  |  | 900                         | 116.36 cts            |
| Do. - Pillar-dollar of Spanish America,                                            |  | 898                         | 116.10 "              |
| France, - Crown, (ceased to be coined in 1793.)                                    |  | 909                         | 117.53 "              |
| Do. - Five-franc pieces,                                                           |  | 900                         | 116.36 "              |
| Mexico, - Assay of various mints, and in the<br>proportion usually presented here, |  | 897                         | 115.97 "              |
| Pern and North & South Pern, - Dollar,                                             |  | 901                         | 116.49 "              |
| Chili, - Dollar,                                                                   |  | 906                         | 117.13 "              |
| Central America, - Dollar,                                                         |  | 896                         | 115.84 "              |
| Brazil, - Re-stamped dollar of 960 reis,                                           |  | 898                         | 116.10 "              |

Mint of the United States,  
February 11, 1842.



Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 1842.

Sir,

The meeting of the Commissioners to attend to the Annual Assay at the Mint was held yesterday, and I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the minutes of their proceedings.

A letter was received by me, in the morning, from Judge Porter, stating his regret that the condition of his family and of his business put it out of his power to be present.

The District Attorney, Mr. Meredith, was present at the beginning of the meeting, but was unable to remain. He gave his official opinion, however, that the three remaining Commissioners would make a legal quorum of the Board, as the office of District Judge, being vacant, could not be considered in estimating the whole number of Commissioners.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

J. Wm. Wallis Forward,  
Secy of Treasury.



(Copy.)

15)

Mint of the United States,  
Monday Feb. 14, 1842.

The Commissioners appointed under the 32<sup>d</sup> Sect. of the act of January 18, 1837, met, in conformity with the provisions of that act, for the purpose of making the annual trial of the gold and silver coins reserved at the Mint and its Branches, during the year 1841.

Present:

|                                                             |                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Jonathan Roberts, Collector of the Port<br>of Philadelphia. | } Commissioner<br>ex officio.                   |
| Thomas P. Cope, — of Philadelphia,                          |                                                 |
| James C. Booth, — " Do.                                     | } Commissioners<br>designated by the President. |
|                                                             |                                                 |

Also present —

The following officers of the Mint:

The Director,

The Melter & Refiner,

The Treasurer,

The Assayer,

The Chief Coiner,

The Engraver.

The office of United States District Judge is at present vacant: Wm. M. Meredith, Esq., District Attorney, and Commissioner ex officio, was unable to remain for the assay; — and James M. Porter, of Easton, one of the Commissioners designated by the President, was unable to attend.

Count of the Reserved Coins.

The gold and silver coins, reserved, from time to time, during the year 1841, for the Annual Assay, according to the provisions of the 24<sup>th</sup> Sect. of the Act of January 18, 1837, were taken from the Chest in which they had been kept, and were counted, and the number and kind of pieces compared with the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance.

Also the gold and silver coins from the Branch Mint at



New Orleans, Louisiana, - and the gold coins from the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N.C., and Sacklonega, Geo., - transmitted under seal to the Director of the Mint, agreeably to the provisions of the 4th Sect. of the Act of March 3, 1835, "to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States," - were counted, and the number and kinds of pieces compared with the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance.

#### Weight of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the Officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of coins should be weighed, - when the following results were obtained.

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$825.00, and consequently their legal standard weight was 114.344 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 114.352 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by eight thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$91.95, and consequently their legal standard weight was 79.02 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 79.04 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by two hundredths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$97.50, and consequently their legal standard weight was 5.241 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 5.239 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$112.00, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 96.25 ounces. - Their actual weight was found to be 96.28 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by three hundredths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the value of the value standard weight was found to be the standard

The reserved silver coins of the value of the value standard weight was found to be the standard

It appears from the instance within

The Commissioners of the Mint of gold and silver coins into separate parcels was obtained:



The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint were of the value of \$260.00, and consequently their legal standard weight was - 13.975 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 13.977 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the Dahlonega Branch Mint were of the value of \$317.50, and consequently their legal standard weight was 17.066 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 17.070 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by four thousandths of an ounce.

It appeared therefore that the weights were in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

### Assay of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of gold and silver coins should be melted, and cast into separate bars, and assayed; when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900 thousandths, and were therefore exactly of the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900.4 thousandths, and were therefore 0.4 thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 901.8 thousandths and were therefore 1.8 thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 899.5 thousandths, and were therefore 0.5 thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint



were of the fineness of 899.7 thousandths, and were therefore 0.3 thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the Dahlonega Branch Mint were of the fineness of 900.2 thousandths, and were therefore 0.2 thousandth above the legal standard.

It appeared therefore that the deviation from the standard fineness was in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

The Commissioners accordingly approve the gold and silver coins issued at the Mint and its Branches during the year 1841.

### Examination of Mint Weights.

The Commissioners then, in compliance with the provisions of the 3d Sect. of the Act of May 19, 1828, proceeded to test the accuracy of the weights ordinarily employed at the Mint, by comparing them with the series of standard weights kept for the purpose, and the correspondence was found to be in every instance satisfactory.

(Signed) Jonathan Roberts,

Thomas P. Cope,

James C. Borth,

N. M. Patterson,



16

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 23. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a statement of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches, in the month of January.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



17  
Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 28. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to be forwarded, as heretofore, under your pants.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of Treasury. }



Mint of the United States,  
March 11. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, two boxes of dies, directed on their inner envelopes, - one to the Charlotte, and the other to the New Orleans Branch Mint, - to be forwarded, as heretofore, under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director,

per Geo. F. Sumner,

Director's Clerk.

To/

Mrs. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.

10 50

15/90 16.96

40  
250  
25  
220

1

50  
250  
25  
275

122  
976



19

Mint of the United States.  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1842.

Sir,  
I take the liberty of sending to you,  
by the present Mail, two boxes containing  
dies for the New Orleans Mint, and properly  
directed on the inner envelopes. I pray  
you to have the goodness to forward them,  
as heretofore, under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/  
Wm<sup>ll</sup> Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States  
March 22, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint and its  
Branches, in the month of February.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director)

To,

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury. }



McKean

24

Mint of the United States.  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the New Orleans Mint, which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To /  
Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



Mail of the United States,  
March 30, 1872.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dis, directed on the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch, which I pray you to forward, as heretofore, under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

per Geo. F. Manning,

Director's Clerk.

To/

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



McKo

Mint of the United States, 23  
March 31, 1842.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive from you a letter of Mr. Charles E. Wetherill, which you refer to me for my opinion. In this letter Mr. Wetherill asks, whether "it would not be a proper measure to coin no silver above twenty five cent pieces, as it is generally known that no coin is shipped below fifty cent pieces."

In the 30th Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1834, it is declared "that in the denominations of coin delivered, the Treasurer shall comply with the wishes of the depositor, unless when impracticable or inconvenient to do so, in which case the denominations of coin shall be designated by the Director." To this enactment we rigidly adhere, always giving to the depositor the choice of the kind of coin to be returned to him; and it may well be doubted whether it would be right, or even lawful, for the Department to interfere with this regulation, by forbidding the coinage of larger pieces.

But even if this could be done, I do not think it would be desirable, or that it would effect the object aimed at by your correspondent. It is true that our small coins are not carried to Europe now, but this is no doubt because the larger coins are more abundant. If it were possible that our circulation could be made up of small coins only, can it be doubted that these would be carried



abroad when the course of trade should demand the  
exportation of specie?

You are aware that a great proportion of the  
silver coinage, both here and at New Orleans, is  
now in dimes and half dimes, for which the demand  
is very great, in consequence of their passing current  
in the Southern States, for eighths and sixteenths of a  
dollar, so as to yield a profit of 25 per cent. Certainly  
no regulation is at the present time necessary for in-  
creasing the proportion of small silver coinage.

I will not enter into a discussion of the question,  
whether the wealth of a country can be increased  
by any government regulations for preventing the ex-  
portation of its coins. I have supposed this to be a  
settled point in political economy.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

(To)

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury.

I return Mr. Wetherill's letter.



Patterson 22 March 1842

Sir.

Would it not be a proper  
measure, to coin no silver above  
Twenty five cent pieces? for it is  
generally known, that no coin is  
shipped below fifty cent pieces

Very Respectfully

Wm. Walter Forward

Chas. E. Patterson

Washington



check

25

Mint of the United States  
April 9th, 1842.

Sir, I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a roll, directed, on the inner envelope, to the Charlotte Mint, which I beg that you will forward under your frank.

The roll contains a few sheets of blank Mint Certificates of which the Charlotte Branch is in immediate need. The remaining blanks I shall send, with other articles, by the way of Charleston.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

(S)  
Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



26

Mck

Mint of the United States.

April 16th, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., in which you ask my opinion as to the propriety of increasing the penalty in the bond of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint.

The sum in which the Treasurer of the Philadelphia Mint is bound is fixed by the act of Jan 18, 1837, at \$10,000, and this amount was also originally selected as the penalty in the bond of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint. Difficulties soon occurred in this Branch, in which the treasurer was somewhat involved, and it was judged prudent to increase the penalty to \$20,000. I am not now aware of any particular circumstances that call for a still larger amount of security, but if you think such an increase expedient and proper, I

( reply.



freely declare my "Satisfaction" in the measure  
 as required by the 3d sect. of the Branch stock  
 act of March 3d, 1835, and I have no doubt  
 that the additional security will be promptly  
 given.

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 P. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To  
 Hon. Walter Forward,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



27

Mint of the United States,  
April 26. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Superintendent of New Orleans Branch Mint, which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson, Director,

per Geo. F. Denning,

Director's Clerk.

(To)

Mr. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



Mint of the United States,  
April 26, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint and its  
Branches, in the month of March.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To,  
Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



McK

29

Mint of the United States,  
April 30. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by  
the present mail, a box of dies for the New  
Orleans Mint, which I pray you to forward, as  
directed on the inner envelope, under your frank.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To,

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



Mint of the United States,  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the New Orleans Branch Mint, which I beg you to forward, under your frank, as usual.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }

P.S. Another box, for the same Mint, will be sent tomorrow.



Mint of the United States,  
May 17, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint and its Branches,  
in the month of April.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

(To)

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



WKO

Mint of the United States,

32

June 13, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a statement of the operations of the Mint and its Branches, in the month of May.

You will not fail to be struck with the very small amount of deposits at New Orleans. Mr. Cammack, (the Treasurer,) ascribes it to two causes. The first is that dimes and half-dimes have reached their legal values, instead of commanding, as heretofore, a considerable premium, - so that this coinage is no longer in <sup>the same</sup> demand. The second that the resumption of specie payments by their Banks made it impossible for them to spare their foreign coins long enough to admit of its recoinage by the Mint.

Another circumstance to which I would call your attention is the increased amount of deposits at the Georgia Mint. They were 98 in number, and amounted, as you observe, to \$36,057. We had, at this Mint, in the same month, deposits from Georgia, amounting to \$141,365. So that we know this state to have given for coinage, in the month of May, an amount of gold to the value of \$50,422. We have received, from the same source, in the two weeks of the present month, \$11,460.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



McK

33

Treasury of the United States,  
June 14, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., in which you call my attention to a paragraph in a letter to you from the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, respecting a claim made by the Meltor & Refiner in his waste account.

In reply I have to state that this account has been to me a source of extensive correspondence, and of much anxiety & vexation. The point referred to you by Mr. Kennedy is but one of many that were presented, and is the simplest of them all, - since no one could hesitate to reject the claim as contrary to the manifest spirit and intention of the law, and in itself absurd. It was not insisted upon by Dr. Biddell, and my opinion with regard to it was known, both to Mr. Kennedy and the Auditor, - having been communicated to them on the 16th & 18th of March last. I know not why you have been troubled with it at this time.

Within five days of the date of Mr. Kennedy's letter, Dr. Biddell presented a new statement of his <sup>account</sup>, modelled after the views which I had communi-



cated, in consequence of a request, to this effect, made by the First Auditor. This new statement was sent to me by Mr. Kennedy, and received on the 11th inst., when I sent a copy of it to the Acting Auditor. In this account, the objectionable features are all omitted, and with regard to the question referred to you by Mr. Kennedy, the Treasurer, (Mr. Cammack,) expressly says: "No allowance of wastage has been made to the Melted & Refined on the amount of 37,695.30 oz. of silver delivered on the 31st of December 1840, & redelivered the next day."

The real difficulty in obtaining a just settlement of this wastage account has arisen from the circumstance that Dr. Riddell's wastage has exceeded the limits fixed by law, which has induced him to use every exertion to reduce his personal loss. The law, however, is imperative; and however unfortunate it may be to the individual, yet when the loss exceeds the legal limit, the excess must be paid by the responsible officer.

I return Mr. Kennedy's letter as you desire.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson

(Director)

To/

Wm. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



U. S. Branch Mint 34  
N Orleans May 21. 1842.

Sir,

The following is an extract from a communication rec.  
by me from the Treasurer of the Branch Mint.

"I shall require for the current quarter remittance  
as follows:

"For Salaries of Officers and Clerks \$3225."

"The Wage of Laborer . . . . . 5000 . .  
8225

"And as soon as the proper appropriations have  
been made by Congress, a further sum of \$5000.  
for Coning, House and Office Expenses."

The urgency of our wants induces me, to anticipate  
in laying it before you, the passage of the Appropriation  
Bill, in order that, so soon thereafter as practicable,  
the remittance may be made.

There being a difference of opinion between  
the Mr. Miller, Refuser and myself, as to the construction of  
that Section of the Law which fixes the Wastage  
to which he is entitled, I beg leave to refer the matter  
to your decision. I contend, that there is nothing  
in that Section which authorizes him to claim double  
Wastage on the same amount. Or in other words,  
that when a Balance of Bullion is found in his hands  
at the end of the year, and delivered, in annual



Settlement of his account, to the Treasurer, Wantage  
being claimed thereon, the law does not allow him  
 a second Wantage, upon the same Bullion, at the  
 next annual settlement. Dr. Riddell takes  
 the ground, that the returning thereof to him, is an  
 other delivery, and that he is entitled to Wantage  
 in all the Bullion delivered to him, the Treasurer.  
 I will thank you for an early expression of your  
 opinion upon this point.

Yrs, respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant

Wm. W. Forward

L. M. Mearns

Sec of the Treas. Sup.



MCK

Mint of the United States,  
July 22, 1842.

Sir,

The enclosed letter addressed to you by the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New-Orleans, was sent to me with the following remark by that officer.

"You will receive herewith a letter, which I had intended, as you will perceive, for the Secretary of the Treasury. I have thought fit, upon reflection, to send it to you, asking you to consider the requests therein contained as addressed to yourself, and leaving it to your sense of justice, if you think my explanations sufficient, to absolve me, whenever I may be now affected by it, from the charge of neglect contained in your letter of the 11th inst."

You will see from Mr. Kennedy's letter, that he has not kept in view, either in his requisitions or his estimates, the unexpended balances of former appropriations, and he shows that he is under the impression that I had never asked attention to these balances in making out these estimates. In this he has fallen into a mistake by not having consulted my correspondence on the subject with his predecessor. In a letter to Mr. Bradford, of Sept. 27, 1838, in which I first ask an estimate of annual expenses from the New Orleans Mint, I say: - "I pray you to send



me, as early as you can, an estimate of the Appropriations wanted, for your Branch, for 1839. Remember that the unsuspended balances of the present year will be available for the next, and must therefore be considered in your estimates."

Application has been made to me for liberty to suspend the operations at the New Orleans Mint during the summer months, as has been found always necessary heretofore. The business at this Mint is already very much reduced, - the season is known to be always dangerous, - and the expenses, for which sufficient provision has not been made, would be reduced by interrupting the work. I would therefore join in asking your approbation of the suspension applied for.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of Treasury.

P.S. May I take the liberty to suggest the propriety of communicating Mr. Kennedy's letter to the Committee of Ways & Means?



U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans  
July 3<sup>d</sup> 1842. 31

Mr

In a letter which I rec<sup>d</sup> some time ago from Dr. Patterson, he requested me to give to give him the exact state of our appropriations, under the head of Wages of Workmen. I accordingly sent him a memorandum made out by the Treasurer of this Mint, by which it appeared, that unless some portion of the amount had been carried to the Surplus fund, we should have had to our credit, under that head, on the 31 March last \$19,119.38.

In a subsequent letter the Director states "that under the act of March 3<sup>d</sup> 1845, Sec 16 it is clear that the whole of the above balance is available to us, as he takes it for granted, that we have made our requisitions out of old appropriations until they were exhausted" He adds "that the item of \$22,000 for wages, in our estimates presented to him for this year, could only be justified on the supposition that we had no unexpended balance at our command. That he assumed this as a fact, and felt sure that there must have been some misapprehension in the case, on the



part of the Committee of Ways and means, as there really was in the same item, with regard to the Phil. Mus. "I finally," he regrets that by leaving him in the dark as to this unexpended supply, I have given him much unnecessary anxiety, and placed him in a false position before the Department and the Committee of Ways and means."

The Director has, I think, not dealt justly with me -

I have never nor did my predecessors as the Department well knows, make requisitions from any particular year's appropriation. Never having been informed of the necessity of doing, I have taken it for granted, that the appropriations would, in the interests of the Institution, be emitted from, in that order which would make them the longest available - If I have erred in my manner of drawing, I will ask to favor me with the form in which I should make those requisitions hereafter.

The estimated amounts, necessary for expenses, for any year, have on the other hand never been stated, to be <sup>required</sup> independently of balance that might be to the credit of the Institution, at the end of the year preceding



McK

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans  
July 3. 1842. 31

Sir,

In a letter which I rec<sup>d</sup> some time ago from Dr. Patterson, he requested me to give to him the exact state of our appropriations, under the head of "Wages of Workmen." Accordingly I sent him a memorandum made out by the Treasurer of the Mint, by which it appeared, that unless some portion of the amount had been carried to the Surplus fund, we should have had to our credit, under that head, on the 31 March last \$19,119.38.

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I have made them up, without any reference thereto, leaving any reduction that might be deemed proper, on that account, to be made by the Department possessing all the information relating to the subject, and then which these estimates are presented to the Committee.

No notice whatever, of unexpended balances, which are unavailable after two years, has, if, I mistake not, ever been taken heretofore, either by the Department or by Congress.

In a statement lately received from the Register of the Treasury, "of the sum remaining unexpended on the 31 March 1842 of the appropriations for the Branch Mint at New Orleans" the balance of the item of "Compensation to Labourers" or Wages of Workmen, is stated at only \$3320. There is, as you perceive, between this sum, and that supposed by the Director to be at our disposal, a difference of something like \$12,000.

Permit me to request, that, upon ascertaining the true state of the case, you will take the proper steps, to have the sum lately granted by Congress,



increased, to the extent necessary to meet our  
wants, in that respect, for the year 1842.

Very respectfully,  
Yr. obed. servant

Hon. W. Forward

Sec of the  
Treasury.

J. M. McKim  
Sup.

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1841 - 1842        | 9,420.    |
| Adopted for 1841 - | 27,420.   |
| Drawn in 1841 -    | 19,100    |
| Bal to 1842        | \$ 12,320 |
| Adopted in 1842 -  | 2,000     |
| Drawn in 42        | 14,320    |
|                    | 9,000     |
|                    | 4,820     |

W. M. McKim  
1842.



37

Mint of the United States,  
July 23, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a statement of the operations of the Mint and Branches, in the month of June.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



Mint of the United States  
Assayer's Office, Aug. 2. 1842.

J. M. McKean Esquire  
Treasury Department.

Sir,

Your note of July 27<sup>th</sup>, in relation to our Work on Coins &c. was handed to us by the Director of the Mint. Owing to the difficulty of taking perfect impressions on enamelled paper (which gives the best effect to engravings of this sort) our copper-plate printing is in a backward state, and a little delay has been unavoidable. This delay has, however, led to some improvements, particularly in laying the plates, in binding. We have now the pleasure of sending a copy, which it is hoped will be approved. The price is fixed at five dollars, altho' from the amount of labour expended upon the work, and the style of its publication, a higher charge might fairly have been made - as was urged by persons conversant with the publishing business. - We shall be happy to supply any orders, & expect we long to send an Agent to Washington, with a number of copies - there being some subscribers there.

(Postscript over)

Very respectfully, J. W. Eckfeldt & W. E. DuBois



Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> - 2. p. m.

P.S. The ~~above~~ foregoing was written before the books came  
to hand, in order to have every thing ready. On examination,  
I found every copy of that parcel had a plate upside down,  
which ~~was~~ occasioned a further vexatious delay. I beg  
you will not impute to us any inattention to your requests,  
since every effort has been made to forward the book as early  
possible.

Yours

W. E. Du Bois.



Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 19, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a statement of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches in the month of July.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Am. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury.



UCK

Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 22. 1842.

40

Mr. Joseph B. Mitchell, one of the sureties  
on the bond given June 8, 1837, by Edward Sprague,  
Clerk of the Weigh-rooms, having found it neces-  
sary, in consequence of a change of circumstances,  
to withdraw from this responsibility, I herewith  
send you a new bond, with the name of John  
Cavanaugh substituted for that of Mr. Mitchell.  
I have inquired into the standing of Mess. Hunt  
and Cavanaugh, and deem them sufficient and  
satisfactory sureties.

In attending to this business, I have been sur-  
prised to find that the bonds of two of the other  
clerks, and the original bond of Mr. Sprague,  
were retained in the Mint, instead of being sent  
to the Department, and submitted for your ap-  
probation, as required by the Act of Jan. 18, 1837.  
I now repair this omission, by sending them enclosed,  
with the declaration that I consider them satisfac-  
tory.

Mr. Sprague has the charge, during  
office hours, of the Treasurer's Vault, and there-  
fore the penal amount introduced into his bond  
is made \$5,000; while for each of the other  
clerks, who have a very inferior pecuniary

I have not improved in any way since 1842.



first placed in them, the amount of \$1000  
was deemed sufficient.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson  
Director

To

Mr. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



McK

111

Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 29. 1842.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 27th, I have to state, that, of Dr. Flügel's charge of \$30.93, only the sum of \$15.16 was for specimens coins, sent to this mint; which was forwarded to him in specimens of our own coinage, on the 14th of August, 1840; and which sum he has correctly credited. I should observe, however, that two billion coins of Saxony were received from Dr. Flügel, through the Department of State, only a few days since; their value is  $\frac{1}{3}$  thaler or 23 cents of U.S.

As it respects the preceding charges, they are correctly based, as to the facts, but the charges themselves I can scarcely understand. The postage on the letter is stated to be "G<sup>s</sup> 18.3"; the carriage of the package is 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen, & the postage on a previous letter 9  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen, making "2.3". I presume that the "18.3" means good-groschen & pfennings, and equal to 52 cents of our money; the "2.3" must be thalers & good groschen, about \$1.48.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

To,

McClintock Young, Esq.,  
Acting Secretary of Treasury.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 17, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to return to you the bond of Wm. E. Derrick recently appointed Clerk of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, with my certificate endorsed, as required by law, that it is satisfactory to me.

I cannot, however, suppress my apprehensions that an individual writing to bad a hand as is indicated by the two signatures of Mr. Derrick is incapable of keeping the books and accounts of the Mint in a satisfactory manner.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

(Director.)

To

Wm. Walter Perward, }  
Secretary of Treasury;



213

Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 22, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint & Branches,  
in the month of August.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

D. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Army. }



114

Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 29. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you,  
by the present mail, a box of dies directed in  
the inner envelope to the Dahlonega Branch  
Mint, to be forwarded under your frank, as  
heretofore.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury. }



Mint of the United States,  
Oct. 17, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint & Branches, in  
the month of September.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



MSK

46

Mint of the United States,  
Oct. 24. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies directed in the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, which, with one sent to you by Saturday's mail, I pray you to forward under your frank, as usual. — Two more boxes, for the same Mint, will be sent by the two next mails.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To,

Wm. Walter Howard,

Sec. of Treasury. }



McK

47

Mint of the United States,  
Oct. 26. 1842.

Sir,

I send by to-day's mail the fourth and last box of dies for the Branch Mint at New Orleans, noticed in my letter of the 24th.

Understanding that complaints are made at the Post Office Department of the weight of these boxes, we shall in future send them in smaller packages.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of Treasury. }



McK

48

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 8. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of three packages of reserved coins for the annual Assay, sent, under your frank, from the Branch Mint at New Orleans, & referred to in Mr. Young's letter of the 5th inst.

I have received, also, three packages of reserved coins, sent, in like manner, from the Branch Mint at Dahlonega.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



M<sup>r</sup> KMint of the United States.  
November 10th, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, estimates of the expenses of the Mint and its Branches, for the half year ending June 30th, 1843, and for the year ending June 30th, 1844.

Accompanying the estimates for the Principal Mint, is a full statement of the grounds on which it is founded, including former appropriations unexpended, and still available under the 16th Section of the Act of March 3d, 1795. You will see, that in consequence of these balances and of other amounts, no appropriation is asked for Coinage - House - and Office expenses, for the first half year, and that the estimates for the expenses of the following year are much diminished.

In the same reason, no appropriation is asked, for these expenses, for the first half year, for the Branch Mint at Charlotte.

Copies of the estimates, but not of the statements on which they are founded, are sent to the Register of the Treasury.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
R. H. Patterson,  
Dir.

Wm. Mather Forward,  
Sec. of Treasury.



MR

30

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 12. 1842.

Sir,

I have received a letter from the Treasurer of the Mint at New Orleans, in which he states that there is now a great desire, at that place, to introduce the employment of copper coins, and says that, if a supply could be sent from this Mint, he thinks a large amount might be exchanged for silver & gold. Such a transaction would be, on every account, desirable, and I am anxious & ready to enter upon it, but I deem it improper to do so without your consent.

The 35th Sect. of the Mint Act of 1837, states, "That it shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Mint to deliver the copper coins in exchange for their legal equivalent in other money, to any persons who shall apply for them." And the following section says: "That the copper coins may, at the discretion of the Director, be delivered in any of the principal cities and towns of the United States, at the cost of the Mint for transportation."

Now I would propose that kegs of cents should, from time to time, be sent from here to the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and placed in the hands of the Treasurer of that Branch for distribution.



That the Treasurer of the Branch Mint be considered as the Agent of the Treasurer of this Mint in the business, and that he have allowed to him a commission of one per cent. on the amount of copper sold. This was the commission allowed by the Treasurer of the United States to his Agent at Philadelphia, while, under the old Mint laws, the distribution of copper coins was made the duty of that Officer.

That the expenses of transporting the coins, including insurance, if deemed expedient, be paid by this Mint.

That the Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint, in his capacity as agent, shall account with the Treasurer of this Mint, who will of course account with the Department for these as well as other copper coin transactions.

If the arrangement thus proposed meets your approbation, it shall be entered upon without delay.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To/  
 Hon. Walter Forward, }  
 Secretary of Treasury.



116

57

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 16, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 10<sup>th</sup> inst., of a 4<sup>th</sup> package of coins from Dahlonega Br. Mint, & this morning, of a 5<sup>th</sup> package, sent under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

To

Wm. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury. }



52

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 21. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
statement of the operations of the Mint and Branches,  
in the month of October.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



JCK

53

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 30. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt, on the 24<sup>th</sup> inst., of a 6<sup>th</sup> package  
of coins, & this morning of a 7<sup>th</sup> package,  
from the Branch Mint at Dahlonega,  
forwarded to me under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

per Geo. F. Manning,

Director's Clerk.

Wm. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



54

McKean

Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 3. 1842.

Sir,

Our present government deposits stand  
as follows:

|         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| Gold,   | \$ 57,678.58         |
| Silver, | <u>47,282.36</u>     |
|         | <u>\$ 104,960.94</u> |

Now it is a consequence of this small amount, particularly of Silver, that our returns to depositors are so long delayed as to give rise to just complaints.

Between the 17th of August and the 9th of November, one house deposited with us \$215,500 for coinage, and were subjected to an average delay of 25 days in receiving their returns. This house has, heretofore, escaped the injury from loss of interest, by an arrangement with the Philadelphia Bank, which made advances on the Mint certificates, for one dollar on every \$1000;—an operation which seems to be to the advantage of both parties, and especially to the Bank, since it gets a premium, though a small one, — runs absolutely no risk, — increases its amount of specie, — and really loses nothing by delay, since the possession of specie in our vaults is as good a security for their paper



circulation as if it were in their own. — I am informed, however, by the House in question, that the Philadelphia Bank refuses to continue its arrangement any longer, in consequence of our delay in making returns, & requires full interest for the time during which the advance is made.

Now in the operations of the Mint, a large amount of bullion must always be in transit through the several departments. It is in bars, in ingots, on the refining test, in solution, in strips, in planchets, in clippings, &c., — and it is impossible to make our payments promptly, unless the public deposit be equal to the amount of bullion thus under operation. But, with the present business of the Mint, the deposit is by no means sufficient for this purpose, and hence a delay which is an inconvenience and loss to our depositors, and a mortification to us.

Under these circumstances, I most respectfully beg that you will increase the Mint deposit by the amount of at least \$100,000. I understand that the United States has a large sum at the Philadelphia Bank. Such part of it as you may see proper to transfer to the Mint will certainly be in as safe keeping, and it will be always accessible to the government, on a short notice,



when required. It is well known how important  
the Mint deposit was to the Government du-  
ring the suspensions and embarrassments of  
1837 and 1841.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/ }  
Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mont Plu -  
 Mrs. Charlotte -  
 Dahlgren  
 M. S. Dean

Shel enclosed communication from the Director of the mint is respectfully submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury for his consideration & decision. Great dissatisfaction has been expressed in both Philadelphia and New Orleans at the delay in making the return to depositors of bullion to be coined. The delay increased seems arises from the want of means at the mint & branch to pay the deposits promptly - and it is, no doubt, desirable, provided the State of the Treasury will advise of it, that the deposit of \$50,000 at both points should be increased. Respectfully submitted.  
 M. S. Dean

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 20,000  
 32,000  
 46,000

now are, but it is certainly desirable that neither of them should be less than \$30,000, and it is especially required that the deposit at Dahlgren should



MCK

55

Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 8, 1842.

Sir,

I am much gratified to find, from your letter of the 6th inst., that my application for an increase of our government deposits at the Mint has been promptly granted.

The deposits for coinage, at the New Orleans Branch Mint, have increased considerably, and there is no doubt that they would be much greater if the returns could be made more promptly. In a letter from the Treasurer, of the 22<sup>d</sup> ult., he mentions that the Bank of Louisiana has \$1,000,000 in specie, and the Mechanics & Traders' Bank \$1,000,000, about the half of which is in foreign coins, every dollar of which will be deposited at the Mint as soon as it can be coined. — In June last, the U.S. deposit account, at that Mint, showed a balance of but \$23,238.10. It ought certainly to be increased at least \$100,000, and it is desirable that it should be even greater.

The original U.S. deposits, at the Charlotte Branch Mint, was \$30,000, and that at the Dahlonega Mint \$20,000. I do not know what their deposits now are, but it is certainly desirable that neither of them should be less than \$30,000, and it is especially required that the deposits at Dahlonega should



not be, as at present, less than at Charlotte, since  
it has a greater amount of gold to coin.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
N. W. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To/ }  
Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury. }



WCK

sent on

56

Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 14. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed in the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, which I pray you to forward under your frank.

Several more boxes for the same Mint, will be sent by the succeeding mails.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 21. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a statement of the operations of the Mint  
and Branches in the month of November.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Am. Walter Forward,

Secretary of the Treasury.

}



McK

38

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 5, 1843.

Sir,

I am gratified to learn, by your letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> inst., that you have determined to increase the U.S. deposit at the New Orleans Branch Mint. It will greatly facilitate their operations, which are now on a very respectable scale.

The principal work of the New Orleans Mint, heretofore, in silver, has been the coinage of quarters, dimes, and half-dimes, and the demand for these coins, after a partial suspension, has again revived. The wishes of the depositors will therefore have the effect of making this still a principal coinage at that Mint. It would be impracticable, with their present amount of business, to limit the work to these small coins, unless at the request of depositors willing to submit to the consequent delay in receiving their returns: but I will communicate your views to the Superintendent, and I am sure that he will do every thing in his power



to carry them out. It is proper to mention  
that no dollar-pieces have been struck at  
the New Orleans Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director.

To/

Mr. Walter Forward,

Secretary of the Treasury.



McK

59

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 14, 1843.

Sir,

As the Annual Assay at the Mint is to be made on the 13<sup>th</sup> of next month, I have the honor respectfully to request that you will ask the attention of the President to the appointment of the Additional Commissioners provided for in the 32<sup>d</sup> Section of the Act of Jan 18, 1837.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Treasury Department  
Jan: 14. 1843.

60

Sir

I have the honor to submit for your action thereon, a letter received from the Director of the Mint recommending the appointment of Commissioners for the approaching annual assay at that Institution.

I remain very Respectfully  
Yours Albed. Serv

W. F. Fannin  
Sec. of the Treasury.

The President of the  
Ab. States.



(Private.)

Minist of the United States.

Jan. 14, 1843. 61

Sir,

I send herewith an official request for the appointment of the Additional Commissioners for our approaching Annual Assay; and I take the liberty of suggesting the names of Benj. W. Richards Esq., Prof. J. Torrey, and Prof. Mr. F. Frazer.

The character and standing of Mr. Richards are well known to you, and I hope that his name will be acceptable to the President. Dr. Torrey is professor of Chemistry in Columbia College, New York, and eminent as a man of science. Mr. Frazer is professor of Chemistry in the Franklin Institute, and of Natural Philosophy in the Central High School of this city. It is always desirable to have among the Commissioners men who can judge scientifically of the operations performed before them, and professors Torrey and Frazer certainly possess this advantage.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson.

Wm. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



(Copy.)

P2

Mint of the United States,  
Philadelphia, January 19, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to lay before you the following report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches during the past year.

The coinage at the principal Mint in 1842 amounted to \$2,426,351.40, - comprising \$960,017.50 in gold, \$1,442,500 in silver, and \$23,833.90 in copper coins, and composed of 7,483,180 pieces. (Statement A.)

The deposits of gold within the year amounted to \$977,911, and those of silver to \$1,567,420. Of the gold \$273,587 was derived from the mines of the United States, and of the silver \$6,455. The principal supply of silver was, as heretofore, in Mexican dollars; there was, however, a new source presented, in the introduction, from Canada, of \$208,826 worth of worn French crowns and half-crowns brought for recoinage. (Statement B.)

At the New Orleans Branch Mint, the coinage in 1842 amounted to \$1,295,756, - comprising \$405,500 in gold, and \$890,250 in silver coins, and composed of 4,159,600



pieces. - The deposits for coinage amounted to \$588,274 in gold, and \$932,665 in silver. (Statements C and D.)

The Branch Mint at Charlotte received during the year deposits of gold to the value of \$174,508, and its coinage amounted to \$159,005, - composed of 27,480 half-eagles and 8642 quarter-eagles. (Statements C and D.)

The Branch Mint at Dahlonega received deposits of gold to the value of \$323,371, and its coinage amounted to \$309,647.50, composed of 59,608 half-eagles and 4,642 quarter-eagles. (Statements C and D.)

It will be observed that the operations of the last year greatly exceeded those of the year preceeding it, not only at the principal Mint but at all the Branches. The amount of deposits, at the whole Mint Establishment, in 1841, was \$2,166,723, and that of coinage \$2,240,321; while the amount of deposits in 1842 was \$4,564,150, and that of coinage \$4,190,754. (Statements C and F.) The operations at the Philadelphia and New Orleans Mints were much increased toward the close of the year, in consequence of the course of trade leading to the introduction of specie from Europe.



The production of gold from the United States mines during the last year, as indicated by the deposits for coinage at the Mints, has been very considerable, - these deposits having amounted to \$777,097. The increase is particularly remarkable in Georgia, which has furnished \$473,648 of gold bullion to the Mints at Philadelphia and Dahlonega. (Statement G.)

I have the honor to be, Sir,

with great respect,

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson,

Director of the Mint.

To /  
The President  
of the United States.



MCKO

13

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 19, 1843.

Sir,

I have this day sent to the President my annual report for 1842. It is every year kept back till about this time in the month, in consequence of the necessity of waiting for the partial reports from the Branch Mints. I send herewith a copy of the report: the statements referred to accompanying that sent to the President.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Walter Forward,

Secretary of the Treasury.



64

Min<sup>tr</sup> of the United States.  
Feb. 1, 1843.

Sir,

In compliance with your request,  
I send you herewith a copy of my  
annual report and statements sent  
to the President on the 19<sup>th</sup> ult. Our  
messenger has a distinct recollection of  
having placed the packet addressed  
to the President, in the Post-office.  
I regret the delay caused by ~~the~~ its  
being miscarried or mislaid.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To / The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Wm<sup>th</sup> Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury.



653

MCK

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 3. 1843.

Sir,

On the receipt of your communication of the 19th ult., conveying the letters of appointment of B. W. Richards, Esq., Prof. A. Torrey, and Prof. Geo. F. Frazer, as Commissioners to attend the annual assay at the Mint, these letters were sent to the gentlemen named, and Mess. Torrey and Frazer have signified their willingness to serve. The answer of Mr. Richards was not given till yesterday, and I regret to state that an expected absence from the city prevents his acceptance of the appointment. Permit me, then, to beg that you will ask the attention of the President to the case, in order that the vacancy thus left in the Commission may be filled.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

(Director)

To/

Am. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 3, 1843.

Dear Sir,

I send herewith an official letter stating the B. W. Richards Esq. is unable to serve as an Assay Commissioner on the 13th inst., and begging that the vacancy may be filled by the President. I shall be always most happy to receive here any gentleman that may be selected by the President or yourself; but as it has been customary for the Director to bring names to your notice, I would respectfully suggest that of Gen. Robert Patterson.

Very respectfully  
and truly yours,

R. M. Patterson.

To

Hon. Walter Forward.



ackd

Philad<sup>a</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 4. 1843

Wm<sup>d</sup>, Before receiving your note  
appointing me to act as one of the  
Commissioners at the annual Affay  
at the Muck on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst,  
I had made arrangements that  
would require me to be absent  
from the city on that day.

This will prevent me from  
accepting the appointment with  
which I have been honored.

Very respectfully  
Yours  
Chas<sup>s</sup> Richards

198

199

198

51

R. 50. Feb<sup>y</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1843.

Mr. Dean

7

Mr. Walter Stewart  
At P. M. 1843



MCK

106

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 15, 1843.

Sir,

The meeting of the Commissioners for the Annual Assay at the Mint, as provided by the Act of Jan. 18. 1837, was held on the 13th inst., and I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the Minutes of their proceedings.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Wm. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



1843.

68

Mint of the United States,  
Monday, Feb. 13. 1843.

The Commissioners appointed under the 32<sup>d</sup> Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, met in conformity with the provisions of that act, for the purpose of making the annual trial of the gold and silver coins reserved at the Mint and its Branches, during the year 1842.

Present:

Hon. Archibald Roundall, Judge of the  
U. S. Dist. Court, Eastern Dist. of Pa. } Commissioners  
Henry M. Walts, Esq., U. S. Attorney for the } ex officio.  
Eastern District of Penn<sup>a</sup>.

Gen. Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, } Commissioners  
Prof. John Torrey " New York, } designated by  
Prof. John F. Frazer, " Philadelphia, } the President.

Also present,

The following officers of the Mint:

The Director,                      The Melted & Refiners,  
The Treasurer,                      The Assayer,  
The Chief Coiner,                      The Engraver.

Thomas S. Smith, Esq., Collector of the Port, one of the Commissioners ex officio, did not attend.

Count of Reserved Coins.

The gold and silver coins reserved, from time to time, during the year 1842, for the Annual Assay, according to the provisions of the 27<sup>th</sup> Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, were taken from the chest in which they had been kept, and were counted, and the number & kind of pieces compared with



the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance.

Also the gold & silver coins from the Branch Mint at New Orleans, La.,— and the gold coins from the Branch Mints at Charlotte, N. C., and Dahlonega, Geo.,—transmitted under seal to the Director of the Mint, agreeably to the provisions of the 14th Sect. of the Act of March 3d, 1835, to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States,—were counted, and the number & kind of pieces compared with the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance.

### Weight of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of coins should be weighed, when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$972.50, and consequently their legal standard weight was 52.272 ozs. Their actual weight was found to be 52.265 ozs., so that they fell short of the standard weight by seven thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$176.25, and consequently their legal standard weight was 151.4624 ozs. Their actual weight was found to be 151.454 ozs., so that they fell short of the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$415.00, and consequently their legal standard weight was 22.306 ozs. Their actual weight was found to be 22.304 ozs., so that they fell short of the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.



The reserved gold coins of the Dahlonega Branch Mint were of the value of \$610.00, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 32.787 grs. Their actual weight was found to be 32.789 grs.; so that they exceeded the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint were of the value of \$260.00, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 13.975 grs. Their actual weight found to be 13.985 grs.; - so that they exceeded the standard weight by ten thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$176.05, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 151.293 grs. Their actual weight was found to be 151.278 grs.; so that they fell short of the standard weight by fifteen thousandths of an ounce.

It appeared therefore that the weights were in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

#### Assay of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the Officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of gold and silver coins should be melted, and cast into separate bars, and assayed; when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900 thousandths, and were therefore exactly of the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900.9 thousandths, and were therefore nine tenths of a thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 900.5 thousandths, and were therefore five tenths of a thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 899.5 thousandths, and were therefore five tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.



The returned gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint were of the fineness of 899.8 thousandths, and were therefore two tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The gold coins of the Dahlonega Branch Mint were of the fineness of 900.1 thousandths, and were therefore one tenth of a thousandth above the legal standard.

It appeared therefore that the deviations from standard fineness were in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

The Commissioners accordingly approved the gold and silver coins issued at the Mint and its Branches during the year 1842.

#### Examination of the Weights.

The Commissioners then, in compliance with the provisions of the 3d Sect. of the Act of May 19th, 1828, proceeded to test the accuracy of the weights ordinarily employed at the Mint, by comparing them with the series of standard weights kept for the purpose, and the correspondence was found to be in every instance satisfactory.

(Signed) Arch<sup>d</sup>. Randall,

W. M. Watts,

R. Patterson,

John Torrey,

John F. Hazen,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.



Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 28. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint and  
Branches in the month of January last.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson.

To / Hon. Walter Forward, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

15/600/4  
300  
3.80

600



1000

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 720 \quad 720 \\
 365 \quad 120 \\
 10950 \quad 1820 \quad 5.26 \\
 365 - \quad 1825 \\
 \quad 950 \\
 \quad 430 \\
 \quad 2200 \\
 \quad 2895 \\
 \quad \underline{375}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 16 \overline{) 500} \quad 26 \\
 \underline{32} \\
 280 \\
 \underline{6}
 \end{array}$$

$$15 \overline{) 8000} \quad 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 112 \overline{) 10.} \\
 \underline{5.}
 \end{array}$$

$$365 - 12000 \quad 16$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 565 \overline{) 12000} \quad 32 - \\
 \underline{1095} \\
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 \underline{1095}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 32 \\
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 5.2
 \end{array}$$



MCK  
Sir,Mint of the United States, 70  
March 4. 1843.

I have not seen any notice of the Mint report for 1842 having been sent to Congress, nor has a copy of it come to my hands among the Congressional documents. I will feel under much obligation to you, if you will let me know what course was taken with this paper. The report was sent by me on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of February, the Secretary of the Treasury wrote to me that the copy sent to the President, with the tabular statements, had been mislaid; and I immediately forwarded, to the Secretary, a copy of these papers. Since that time, I have heard nothing of the matter.

I received, this morning, your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup>, regarding an application about to be made by Prof. Weytt, for a set of Presidential Medals. His wishes shall be attended to; but I shall have to inform him that the tin medals will cost as much money and more labor than a set of bronze medals already prepared, and that when silvered, they will not be so classical in their appearance, & will very soon tarnish.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

To/  
W. Clintoek Young, Esq.,  
Acting Secretary of the  
Treasury.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



MCK

71

Mint of the United States,  
March 7th, 1843.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to your address, by the present mail, a package, properly directed on the inner envelope, containing dies for the New Orleans Branch Mint; and I have to beg that you will cause it to be forwarded to its destination, under your frank, according to the practice hitherto uniformly pursued in similar cases.

By an Act approved on the 27th ult., the duties of Melter & Refiner, at the Branch Mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega, were transferred from the Assayer to the Coiner. It may be proper to report to you, that I have given to the Superintendents of those Mints the necessary instructions for carrying this law into execution at the earliest practicable day.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Wm. A. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



73

MCK

Mint of the United States.  
March 8th, 1843.

Sir,

I again take the liberty of sending to your address a package for the New Orleans Branch Mint, (and so directed on the inner envelope,) which I beg that you will do me the favor of forwarding under your frank. It is of pressing importance that it come early and safely to hand, and therefore resort must be had to the mail. — Similar packages will follow, for the Branch Mints at Charlotte and Dahlburg.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Mr. C. Spencer,

Secretary of the Treasury.



73

Capitol - March 9. 1843

Dear Sir -

The Message with the Mint  
Report, was ~~read~~ before the H<sup>o</sup> of  
Rep. on the last day of the Session,  
and will be printed.

Y<sup>rs</sup> Truly. J. Purche

W. C. Young Esq.



74

Mint of the United States,  
March 13. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., on the subject of a charge made against P. S. Gaither, Esq., the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, that he resides with his family about 60 miles from that town.

In compliance with your instructions, I will make immediate inquiries as to the truth of this allegation, and the inconveniences caused by the remote residence if true. — In the meanwhile, however, it may be proper to state that I have been aware that Mr. Gaither's family resided at a distance from Charlotte, and that he was occasionally with them; but his prompt attention to our constant correspondence, and the evidences which he has shown of being a vigilant officer, lead me to the conviction that his own residence is at Charlotte, and that he is not guilty of neglect of his official duties.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



755

Mint of the United States,  
March 15. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a statement of the operations of the Mint of  
the United States and its Branches, in the month  
of February.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Mrs. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }

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107.040  
37.487.50  
543.147 50



3/40  
13.50

70

Memo

Sir,

Mint of the United States,  
March 20. 1843.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., in regard to the denominations of coins struck at the Mints at Philadelphia and New Orleans.

As to silver coins, there is no difficulty in conforming to your wishes, and indeed this is virtually done at present. At New Orleans no dollar-pieces have yet been struck; and in February all the silver coinage was in quarter-dollars. In the same month only one-sixth of our silver coinage was in dollars, which were struck at the beginning of the month; and none have been coined since.

As to gold coins, there is a difficulty in the way which I hope it will be in your power to remove. Our deposits of gold are now very considerable, and the demand for the earliest possible return in coins is always very urgent. Now these returns can be made much sooner in eagles than in the smaller pieces, and it is for this reason that they are preferred by the depositors. The appropriate remedy is to increase the deposits of the United States at the Mint. It now stands as follows:

Of Silver, ————— \$ 150,056.78

Of Gold, ————— 54,904.16

Now the deposits of gold is much too small to answer the important purpose of enabling us to make prompt returns for the bullion left for coinage. We have at this time \$165,000 of gold deposits unpaid, and the Treasurer has but \$10,000 of gold coins in his vault;



so that there is more than \$200,000 worth of gold in the hands of the Melt & Refiner and the Coiner, passing through the numerous processes required for the conversion of metal into coin. It will be found in various forms: in bars, in granulated flakes with silver, in standard ingots, in strips, in clippings, in filings, in planchets, &c. While the Mint is in operation much of the Bullion must always be in this state of transition; and for the prompt payment of depositors the government deposits ought to be equal to the Bullion thus under operation.

It would therefore be very desirable that our gold deposits should be increased at least \$100,000. It is for you to judge whether it would suit the Department to take this step at the present time.

The present course of exchange causes a large amount of gold to be carried to New Orleans, and in consequence, the deposits of this metal for coinage at the Mint there are much increased. I do not know the amount of their United States deposits at this time; but I have no doubt that it is also deficient. I will communicate to the Superintendent your wishes as to a selection of the smaller denominations for the gold coinage.

Your instructions with regard to the Assay of the Foreign coins made current by the Act of March 3. 1843, shall be attended to.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Director.



P.S. In looking over this letter, it has occurred to me that my statement of the large amount of gold deposits in the Mint unpaid might lead you to infer that there had been some unnecessary delay in our negotiations. I think it proper therefore to mention that the earliest of these deposits made on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant.



76a

M<sup>r</sup>.Mint of the United States,  
April 5. 1843.

Sir,

In a letter to me of the 11th ult. you state that "in a communication addressed to the President of the United States, and by him referred to your Department, it is charged against Col. Gaither, the Superintendent of the Branch Mint in North Carolina, that he resides with his family about sixty miles from Charlotte;" and you ask me "to cause the necessary inquiries to be made to ascertain if such be the fact, and if so whether any inconvenience is caused to those having transactions with the Mint, in consequence of the distance of the Superintendent's residence."

In compliance with your instructions, I immediately wrote to Mr. Gaither, sending him a copy of your letter, and begging him "to furnish me with his reply as to the truth of the allegations made, accompanied with certificates from disinterested persons acquainted with the circumstances."

This reply I have received, under date of the 24th ult., with certificates from several individuals. These papers are sent enclosed, and you will see that they go to establish the following facts:

1st. - Col. Gaither came into office on the 18th of August, 1841. He removed his family to Charlotte

Specimen of the original  
explaining the correspondence



soon afterwards, and they resided there with him during the following Autumn, Winter, & Spring, but then returned to their former residence in Morganton, where they have since remained. (A.)

2d. - Col. Gaither himself has continued to be a resident of Charlotte, & is so considered by the citizens of that place. (B. & C.)

3d. - He makes occasional visits to his family in Burke County, which have been of very limited duration, except during the months of August and September, when he was "pretty generally absent in consequence of the unhealthiness of Charlotte." (A.)

4th. - During his occasional absences, he has always left his clerk, Mr. W. F. Strange, "in full possession of his department, and authorized to represent him in every particular"; so that no interruption or delay of business has occurred. (A.)

5th. - By Col. Gaither's visits to Morganton, which is in the midst of a great gold region, he has afforded to the Miners and Dealers opportunities of sending safely to the Charlotte Mint, for coinage, deposits of gold which he states to have amounted to more than \$107,000. (A.) A certificate from the Agent of the Bank of North Carolina shows that he had himself thus received, by the hands of Col. Gaither, and deposited for coinage, upwards of \$53,000 in value of gold bullion. (C.) By this means, it is believed



that a large accession of Bullion has found its way to the Charlotte Mint, which would not otherwise have reached it. (D.)

6th. - The certificates go to show that Col. Gaither has the confidence of the community in which he resides, and of all persons who have business at the Mint. (B. & D.)

7th. - During his superintendence, the amount of deposits and of coinage has increased, while the expenses of the Mint have sensibly diminished. (C)

To these statements I will merely add that my constant correspondence with Col. Gaither has led me to the conviction that he is an attentive, vigilant, and able officer, and that his duties are faithfully performed.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Mr. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



U. States Branch Mint

Report of D. R. S. L.  
Patterson Director of the  
Mint at Philadelphia on  
certain charges against Col  
B. S. Gaither Sup<sup>t</sup> of Branch  
Mint at Charlotte N.C. viz.  
Residing 60 miles from Mint.  
Consequent neglect of duty.  
The Director reports the charges  
not sustained - and that Col  
Gaither is, in his opinion "an"  
"attentive, vigilant and able"  
"officer, and that his duties  
are faithfully performed".

Respt. submitted

S. M. M. R.

april 10. 1843.

Sent by the Director

I came into Office on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 1844, and have been a resident  
of Charlotte from that day to this date. I removed my Family here, as soon



U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1843

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. enclosing me a copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury to yourself, informing you, that, "in a communication addressed to the President of the United States, and by him referred to this Department,

that of the Branch Mint  
is about 60 miles from  
certain & such be the fact,  
to those having transactions

Defence of  
B. S. Gailther, Supt. of  
Charlotte Br. Mint.

5 papers, accompan-  
ied by a report from  
the Director of the  
Mint.

or has assumed a tangible  
Treasury have given me  
and groundless charge,  
private malice, or from  
himself or his friend,

and found it necessary, in order to effect his nefarious design, to trans-  
fer some charge against me, and thereby produce a false impression  
upon the mind of the President - And in all probability, it has been  
some person who has not been a depositor, nor had any transactions with  
the Mint.

In reply I pronounced the charge false in every shape  
and form in which it can be presented, and I believe basely false.

I came into Office on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 1841, and have been a resident  
of Charlotte from that day to this date. I removed my Family here, as soon



U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1843

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst enclosing me a copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury to yourself, informing you, that, "in a communication addressed to the President of the United States, and by him referred to this Department, it is charged against Col. Gaither, the Superintendent of the Branch Mint in North Carolina, that he resides with his Family about 60 miles from Charlotte," and in which he requests you to ascertain if such be the fact, and if so "whether any inconvenience, is caused to those having transactions with the Mint."

I am pleased that this matter has assumed a tangible form, and that the President and Secretary of the Treasury have given me an opportunity of proving the negative of this false and groundless charge, which no doubt has originated from personal and private malice, or from some individual who is desirous of the Office for himself or his friend, and found it necessary, in order to effect his nefarious design, to trump up some charge against me, and thereby produce a false impression upon the mind of the President - And in all probability, it has been some person who has not been a depositor, nor had any transactions with the Mint.

In reply I pronounce the charge false in every shape and form in which it can be presented, and I believe baseless.

I came into Office on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 1841, and have been a resident of Charlotte from that day to this date. I removed my Family here, as soon



thereafter, as convenience and the health of this place would permit, remained during the Fall, Winter and part of the Spring, and then retired to my former residence in Morganton. — Since which time Mr. Gaither preferred remaining <sup>the greater part of her time</sup> in the Society of her immediate relations and friends and I have indulged her in that pleasure. I have however continued to reside in Charlotte, making occasional visits to my Family of very limited duration, except in the Months of August and September, when I was generally absent, in consequence of the unhealthiness of this place. Fortunately for me, you have in your possession, evidences of my residence here, the frequent official communications made to you by myself, copied to the Clerk of the Mint, and mailed at this place. Upon receiving my appointment of Superintendent, I immediately gave up my professional business upon my Circuit, and have declined practising even in the County of this County, in order that I might steer clear of the remarks of envy and malice.

I cannot conceive that any inconvenience has been caused to those having transactions in the Mint from my occasional absences, for I have always left Mr. Strange the Clerk of the Mint in full possession of my Department, authorized to represent me in every particular.

My occasional visits to Morganton, have resulted in the accumulation of quantities of Bullion deposited, and to the very great convenience of a large number of Depositors. — Morganton is situated immediately in the Gold region and the Miners and Dealers in gold, have been in the habit of handing me their gold whenever they have met with me, without taking any receipt or guaranty for its return, but my integrity, and I have always deposited the same, in my own name, and sent them their coin, by the first opportunity.



The Bank at Morganton has done a large business in the purchase of Bullion, and I have always accommodated the Directors, by bringing their Bullion to the Mint. Upon reference to the Books, I find that I have brought to the Mint upwards of one Hundred and Seven thousand Dollars worth of Gold Bullion for the accommodation of Depositors, and have been induced to incur this heavy individual responsibility from a wish to restore confidence in this Institution and to render it useful to the Community. I have heard of no complaints or charges made against me from any individual who has had business with the Mint, or from any other source. You are aware of the fact, that I have met with difficulties in the discharge of my Official duties with the other Officers of this Mint one of which resulted in a challenge to mortal combat, but I am ready and willing, <sup>to defend</sup> every official act of my administration here, and fear not the scrutiny of Malice itself.

I herewith enclose you the certificates of the Clerk and Clerk of the Mint, and of as many other Gentlemen of this place as I deem necessary. They are all Gentlemen of high character, and implicit credence would be given to their statement in this or any other community where they are known. The Merchants who are the largest Depositors are absent at this time at Charleston, and the Northern Cities purchasing their Spring supplies, but I will transmit you their statement as soon as they return. I will go immediately to Morganton and send you the statement of the Citizens of that place upon the subject. I have taken the liberty of transmitting to you likewise the paper marked A. which is an expose of my administration in comparison with that of my predecessor, and exhibits and increase of Bullion and a diminution of expenses. And I will here



remark that the item of "Pay of Laborers" for this year, will be still  
 less by \$400. than last--

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

B. S. Gantner

Superintendent

90

Dr. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia

His Excellency, Sept. 13. 1873.  
 Charlotte, N. C.  
 Mr. R. M. Patterson, Director U. S. Mint  
 being his absence to the charge  
 of visiting 60 miles from  
 Charlotte: 3 inclosures.  
 Charlotte, N. C. August 24, 1873.

Received  
 June 24. 1873.  
 Charlotte.  
 Sept. 13. 1873.  
 From J. S. Gantner, 657.  
 (d. 1)



2

Col B. S. Parthen

Charlotte Mount 22, 1843

Dear Sir.

I cheerfully comply with your request to state what I know concerning your conduct in this village since you have had the appointment of superintendant of the Branch Mount.

I myself have always regarded you as a rising man, and so have the other citizens of this community. You have been occasionally absent on visits of short duration to your family in Barke, but never in such a way as to impair your character as a resident. The duties of the establishment over which you preside so far as they are known to myself and understood by the community have been faithfully performed, and I know the fact to be that in its management there is a general confidence by all persons as well those who are interested in the ~~prosperity~~ of gold mining as others.

Very respectfully,

truly Yours, W. Osborne

over



3

Charlotte N.C. 23 Mar. 1843

Dear Sir

Your Note of yesterday, (with a copy of a letter from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Secretary of the Treasury appended,) has been received, & I very cheerfully comply with your request in giving what information I can relative to the matter of enquiry.

I deem it sufficient for your purpose simply to state that since you have had the Superintendence of the Mint at this place, I have received deposits for coinage at the same, upwards of fifty three thousand dollars in value of Gold Bullion, from the Mining Districts of Burke & adjoining counties. This amount comprised necessarily, a large number of separate deposits; and so far as I am aware, no complaint has ever been made — certainly none to myself — by any of the numerous depositors, of the least inconvenience having been suffered by them in consequence of your absence from the Mint.

It may be pertinent to observe that the whole of the Bullion referred to, was sent to me under your care; and as opportunities for remitting Gold rarely occur between the districts named & this place, I apprehend that your occasional visits to those districts have been of no inconsiderable advantage to the Miners operating there, as thereby they have obtained much earlier returns from the Mint than otherwise they would have had.

Truly Respectfully  
Yr. Obedt.  
J. Blackwood

Edw. M. S. Gaither  
Superintendent &c

(Late Agent Bank of the State N. C.)



United States Branch Mint

Charlotte N.C. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1843.

The undersigned, Coiner, & Clerk, of the Branch Mint in this place, would respectfully express the opinion, that, instead of the occasional absences of the Superintendent, being disadvantageous, to any persons having transactions at the Mint, they have been the means of bringing a large accession of Bullion to this Institution, which would otherwise have found its way to Bechtlers for coinage, or been taken by the Merchants in their periodical visits to the Northern cities, so that a spurious coinage to that extent would have obtained circulation, or the circulation of so much of the legal coin of the Country would have been entirely lost to this Section of Country - And having seen a statement made by Mr. Osborne of March 22<sup>d</sup> - We fully concur in the truth of its statements. -

John R. Boltons, Coiner  
W. F. Strange, Clerk

March 23, 1843.



M. 5

U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 24 March 1843

Sir

In conformity to your wish as expressed to me, in your note of yesterday's date, that I would give you "an official statement of the various expenditures of the Annual Appropriations made by Congress for this Mint, each year from its commencement to the end of 1842, including the Wastage of Gold" - I respectfully submit the following statement, with the single remark, that the amount charged in the column under the head of "Wastage of Gold", is already included in the amounts under the head of "Contingent Fund", and is merely placed here, to show the amounts that have been charged against the "Contingent Fund" on account of "Wastage of Gold".

I have the honor to be

B. S. Gaither Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Superintendent

Very respectfully Your Obedt. Servt.

W. E. Strange

| Year | Contingent Fund | Pay of Laborers | Salaries of Officers & Clerk | Wastage of Gold |          |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
|      |                 |                 |                              | Total for year  |          |
| 1837 | 6.766. 12       | 1.572. 10       | 4.491. 40                    | 12.829. 62      |          |
| 1838 | 8.922. 11       | 3.356. 30       | 6.000. 00                    | 18.278. 41      | 524. 27  |
| 1839 | 6.768. 84       | 3.216. 32       | 6.000. 00                    | 15.985. 16      |          |
| 1840 | 4.674. 92       | 3.200. 25       | 6.000. 00                    | 13.875. 17      | 439. 76  |
| 1841 | 2.190. 74       | 3.335. 25       | 6.000. 00                    | 11.525. 99      | 237. 07  |
| 1842 | 1.860. 11       | 3.210. 75       | 6.000. 00                    | 11.070. 86      | 408. 62  |
|      | 31.182. 84      | 17.890. 97      | 34.491. 40                   | 83.565. 21      | 1609. 72 |



Amount of Gold Received and Coined each year

|             |              |               |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1837 + 1838 | 131. 698. 43 | 84. 335. 00   |
| 1839        | 126. 836. 40 | 162. 762. 50  |
| 1840        | 127. 585. 91 | 127. 235. 00  |
| 1841        | 132. 587. 41 | 133. 297. 50  |
| 1842,       | 174. 407. 11 | 159. 005. 00. |
|             | 693. 115. 28 | 666. 635. 00. |



Mint of the United States.  
April 10, 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith certain additional certificates, received by me, this morning, from Col. B. J. Gaither, Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, and which have relation to charges preferred against him for non-residence &c., respecting which I made report to you on the 5th inst.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



U. States Branch Mint.

Charlotte N.C. 1<sup>st</sup> April 1843

Sir

Upon the 24<sup>th</sup> ulto I had the honor to transmit you my reply to the charge made against me, contained in the letter of the Secy of the Treasury of the 11<sup>th</sup>, accompanied with the statement of Gentlemen of this place.

I have since received the additional enclosed statements of the Citizens of Morgantown, and of the Agent of the Bank at that place, relative to the matter of inquiry; and by the next mail, will send you the statement of the principal Depositors of Lincoln County. Our Merchants have not yet returned, but I will send their statement at as early a period as possible, and if necessary, I can send any number of certificates, that may be required, from Gentlemen of the greatest respectability, proving the falsity of the charge.

I have the honor to be

very respectfully

Your O<sup>b</sup>d<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

B. S. Gauthier

Superintendent

D<sup>r</sup> R. M. Patterson  
Director of the Mint  
Philadelphia



2 8  
 Morgantown N. C. 30<sup>th</sup> Mar 1843

B. S. Gaither Esq  
 Superintendent  
 Sir

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 28<sup>th</sup> Inst. enclosing copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to the Director of the U. S. Mint in which it is charged against you as Superintendent of the Mints at Charlotte N. C. that you reside with your Family some 60 miles from Charlotte thereby causing inconvenience to those having transactions with the Mint &c and requesting from us a statement as to the truth of the charge.

In reply we have to state that since you retired upon the duties as Superintendent of the Mints at Charlotte your residence has certainly been there. It is true that since Mr. Gaither's return from Charlotte you have made occasional visits to this Village, and the neighborhood of the Gold Mining, but these visits have not been frequent nor has your stay at any one time been of sufficient duration to justify the charge that your residence was here and not in Charlotte.

The Citizens of the Mining Region in this District feeling a lively interest in the permanency of the Mints lately established at Charlotte regard your presence occasionally and wish their



as quite material to the interests of the  
 operations of the Mr. Mint. — You are  
 aware that previous to your taking charge  
 the Institution a large amt. of the Gold  
 coined in a portion of the Mining Region  
 shaped and made into coins by Mr. Bechtler  
 at his Establishment in Rutherford County —  
 Owing to your having occasionally visited this  
 portion of the Mining Region and the impli-  
 cit confidence & exposed view your integrity  
 a different direction has been given to  
 your efforts as Superintendent. & has given to  
 them Gold and it is now sent to the  
 Mr. Mint coined and circulates among  
 us in line of "Bechtler's"

We cannot for a moment believe that  
 the Institution and which you preside has  
 all suffered or that any one having business  
 to transact has refused or inconvenienced  
 your occasional trips to the Mining Region  
 — but on the other hand we feel ourselves  
 gratified and take pleasure in saying not  
 for ourselves but for a number of others that  
 your having occasionally been in this  
 large and the neighborhood of the Mint  
 has been a convenience to us as Depositors  
 of Gold Bullion, and we have no doubt  
 but that it added very materially to  
 the amt. coined last year and that  
 of any preceding year since the estab-  
 lishment of the Institution



Hoping that what we have said may  
be sufficient to remove the cause  
of Complaints alleged against  
you and

We remain Dear Sir

Very Respectfully  
Yr. Obedt. Servant

Thos Walton

Wm. W. Entire

James M. Hapton Gore

James C. Smyth

J. J. Cronin

Thos. W. Scott

C. M. Avery

Wm. W. Hackett

A. C. Cronin

Wm. W. Hackett

Edw. R. Caldwell



Bank of the State of N. Caro. Morganton  
(Agency) 30<sup>th</sup> March 1843.

B. J. Guithrie Esq<sup>r</sup>

Dear Sir,

Your favour, covering a copy of a letter, from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> William Spencer Secretary of the Treasury, containing charges against you, as Superintendent is received.

I should suppose your Official correspondence, with the Director of the Mint, would refute the charge of Absentism.

I have purchased Bullion, for the Bank, before, and since, the establishment of the Branch Mint at Charlotte; and without intending any reflection on your predecessor, (and so compels me to state, that during his Superintendency, there was frequently, great delay in making assays, and general dissatisfaction expressed at the results, so much so, that at the instance of the Depositors, the Bank here, sent at considerable expense, a quantity of Bullion to the Philadelphia Mint.

Since your appointment, confidence in the Institution has been restored, the assays have been prompt, & in no instance, has there been any complaint of delay.

The Officers of the Bank, Miners, Merchants, all classes of men, in this community, having business relations, with the Branch Mint, would with entire unanimity, concur with me, in expressing their entire confidence, in the ability and, integrity, with which you have discharged the Duties of Superintendent.



from daily personal intercourse, with the miners, & business  
men, in the mining region, I hazard nothing in saying,  
that President Tilton, now made an appointment, that has given  
and continues to give, more general satisfaction.

very respectfully your Obedt  
Servt

J. S. Avery

Sir

citizens of  
Hemmet

the faculty  
doubt remain  
of the most  
of the States  
be required

I should be  
all the evi  
see how  
to give up  
to me they  
of the cha  
the change

Dr. R. M. C.  
Director  
Ph



W. S. Branch Mint

Charlotte N.C. 4 April 1843

Sir

I sent you by the last mail statements from the  
Citizens of Morgantown, relative to the charges against me, and herewith  
transmit you a similar one from the principal Depositors of Lincolnton.

I hope that I have fully sustained the truth of my reply, and  
the falsity of the charge made against me, but if there is yet a shade of  
doubt remaining, I can forward any number of certificates from Gentlemen  
of the most reputable character. I regret that I have thus far been deprived  
of the statement of our Merchants who are still absent, and I suppose it will  
be required that you should report as soon as possible.

I do not know what is the custom in these matters, but  
I should be pleased to have on file in the Treasury Department, my reply, and  
all the evidence I have sent you, in order that the President & Secretary, may  
see how groundless the charge is, and be induced thereby, upon my application  
to give up the name of the Author or Authors of the same. I think in justice  
to me they should have given the name of the Author with the communications  
of the charge, and have let me have exposed the motives that stimulated  
the charge into existence.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt

B. S. Gauthier

Superintendent

Dr. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia



Lincolnton N.C.

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1843

To  
Col. B. S. Luthers

Your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Spencer Secretary of the Treasury of the U. S. to the Superintendent of the Mint in Philadelphia Pa. relative to a charge that has been made against you that you reside sixty miles from the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N.C. of which you are the Super Intendant, and in consequence of which you neglect your business; As dealers in Gold Bullion, and as Citizens who feel a lively interest in the prosperity and success of that Institution, we state that you do reside in Charlotte in the faithful discharge of your official duties, although your family remain at their former residence in Morganton, and that you make there a brief visit occasionally; during these visits we are informed and believe that no delay, nor incumbrance whatever is felt, or suffered, by the public as Mr. Strange, an Officer of



the Mint readily and promptly acts in your  
 stead; on the other hand, you make that view  
 to your family, a matter of great consequence  
 to gold Dealers & Miners both at this place  
 and in Morganton, & the Mountain gold  
 Region, by Courtaushy and kindly receiving  
 the gold Bullion at Morganton, & immediately  
 taking it with you to the Mint, entering  
 it at the Mint in your own name for  
 our use, and promptly returning it again  
 when coined; thus saving to the Citizens  
 considerable trouble, & expense; upon this ac-  
 count not only a receipt is demanded of you  
 for the gold you receive, so unlimited is the  
 Confidence reposed in you, and we say un-  
 qualifiedly that it is the Universal, and unlimited  
 Confidence you enjoy in the Mining Region  
 of North Carolina, that has contributed so much  
 to the late & present prosperity of the Institute  
 under your supervision; upon the whole we  
 sincerely believe that there is no benefit to be  
 expected from a change of officers at this time  
 and we should truly regret to hear that you  
 was superseded.

Very Respectfully  
 C. C. Henderson  
 Merchant



Jacob Bush Gold Miner

W. J. O. Bush Merchant. Litchfield. Mass.  
~~W. J. O. Bush~~

Jacob Kinsman Merchant

D. Hummer Gold Miner



76a

Mint of the United States,  
April 14, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you the enclosed letter and certificate, to be added to those already sent, on the subject of the charges made against B. S. Smith, Esq., Superintendent of Charlotte Branch Mint, for non-residence, &c.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To

Mr. J. C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of Treasury. }



1  
 Charlotte N.C. April 5 1843

Sir,

The the undersigned being informed that it is charged against, J. S. Gaither, Superintendent of the Branch Mint at this place that he resides sixty miles from Charlotte, we certify this charge is not correct. He resides here and has been ever since his appointment to that office. His family resides here part of the year since that they have resided in Burke N.C. Mr. Gaither occasionally visits that place, by which no inconvenience whatever can occur to depositors; he has regularly deposited bullion in the Mint and has always received our gold coin promptly.

H. B. Williams

W. G. Pearson

J. S. Orr

C. E. Hoop

Leroy Spriggs.



1  
Charlotte N.C. April. 5 1843

Sir,

The the undersigned being informed that it is charged against, J. S. Gaither, Superintendent of the Branch Mint at this place that he resides sixty miles from Charlotte, we certify this charge is not correct. He resides here and has been ever since his appointment to that office. His family resides here part of the year since that they have resided in Burke N.C. Mr. Gaither occasionally visits that place, by which no inconvenience whatever can occur to Depositors, he has regularly deposited bullion in the Mint and have always received our gold coin promptly.

M. B. Williams

N. C. Carson

J. S. Orr

G. E. Meigs

Leroy Springs.



U. S. Branch Mint

Charlotte N.C. 7 April 1843.

Sir

I have the pleasure to enclose the within Certificate of Five of the principal Merchants in this place, who are regular dealers in Gold Bullion, and Depositors at this Mint, and are the only Merchants of this place who deal in gold Bullion except Mr. W. W. Elms, who is still absent, but I hazard nothing in saying that he would make the same statement with great pleasure. I shall not trouble you with any further testimony, but would be gratified that this Certificate, with the other testimony heretofore forwarded, could be placed on file in the Treasury Department where it can be referred to in futuro, as I cannot foresee, where the efforts of malice will cease.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

B. S. Gault

*Superintendent*

Dr. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint  
Philadelphia -



McK

U. S. Branch Mint.

Charlotte N.C. 15 April 1843.

Sir

Upon the 22<sup>d</sup> March, I had the honor of receiving a communication, from Dr. R. M. Patterson, Director of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, enclosing me a copy of a communication, from yourself to Dr. Patterson, in which you inform him, "that in a communication addressed to the President of the United States, and by him referred to this (your) Department, it is charged against Col. Gaither, the Superintendent of the Branch Mint in North Carolina, that he resides with his Family about 60 miles from Charlotte, and in which you request the Director to cause the necessary enquiries to be made, to ascertain if such be the fact, and if so, whether any inconvenience is caused to those having transactions with the Mint, in consequence of the distance of the Superintendent's residence". - To which charge I responded upon the 24<sup>th</sup> Ult., accompanied with the statements of the citizens and business Gentlemen of this place, and have since forwarded the further testimony of Depositors and others from the more distant portions of the Mining region.

In a letter from Dr. Patterson, received by the last mail, he remarks, that "your communication of the 24<sup>th</sup> Ult. with the accompanying documents, was duly received, and has been transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury with a report from me on the subject", but gives me no information as to the character of that report. I must therefore ask of you, to give me a copy of his report, and would be pleased to learn the final action of the President upon the subject. I hope when you examine all the testimony I have forwarded, you will find it a most



groundless charge, and that the President will authorize you to give me full copy of the original communication to him, containing the charge, with the signatures of the individuals making it. — I think, that when persons attempt to practice a fraud upon the high Functionaries of the Government, they should be exposed, at least the accused has right to know his assailants.

I have the honor to be  
very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

B. S. Gaither

Superintendent

Honble J. C. Spencer  
Secy of Treasury  
Washington City

Hon. Secy of



47

<sup>2</sup>  
 Letter from B. S. Gaither  
 Sup. Br. Mint at Charlotte  
 N.C. — Asks for a copy of the  
 Report of the Director of the Mint  
 made to the Dep<sup>t</sup>. on certain  
 charges made against him (B.S.G.)  
 and would be pleased to learn  
 the final action of the President.

The Report and documents which  
 accompanied it were some days  
 since, by the direction of the  
 Secretary, submitted to the President  
 for his consideration.

Reply submitted

15 Apr 21/43

S. M. M. W.

*ms. and print copy of the same*

*sent to the Dep<sup>t</sup>. of the Interior and for  
 approval of the Secy. and recommended  
 from Goldsmith Exp. Com. meeting  
 Camp.*

Wm. W. C. Spencer,  
 Secy of the Treasury.

H. M. Patterson,  
 Director



47

Mint of the United States.  
April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith a report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the month of March. You will <sup>not</sup> fail to be struck with the very large amount of the deposits and coinage, especially in gold. The course of exchange has brought a great deal of foreign gold into the country, and the act of March 3<sup>d</sup> last, respecting foreign coins, has served greatly to increase the proportion of them sent to the Mints.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

To Hon. Jas. C. Spencer,  
Secy of the Treasury.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



98

Min't of the United States.  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box containing dies for the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and so directed on the inner envelope. I pray you to cause it to be forwarded under your frank as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To / Hon<sup>ble</sup> Wm C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

To Mr. Patterson,  
Director U. S. Mint,  
New Orleans.



49

Mint of the United States.

May 5, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., informing me that James F. Cooper has been appointed, by the President, to be the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, in the place of Paul Rossignol.

I am told that Mr. Cooper is probably now at Washington, or in this neighborhood; and if so, I think it very desirable that I should see him before he enters upon his new office. I am the more anxious to do so, as the Assayer of the Dahlonega Mint, — Dr. Farnum, — is now here. If Mr. Cooper be really in this part of the country, and you have the means of communicating with him, may I ask that you will do me the favor of letting him know my desire to see him, if it be not inconvenient for him to visit this Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Wm. J. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

R. M. Patterson.



80

Mint of the United States.

May 9th, 1843.

Sir, I take the liberty of sending you, by the present mail, a package containing a pair of dies for the Branch Mint at Charlotte, and so directed on the inner envelope, — which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Original of the above  
sent to the  
Mint at Charlotte  
May 31, 1843.



Mint of the United States.  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

On receiving information of the removal of Mr. Rossignol from the Dahlonega Mint, Dr. Farnum expressed to me his determination also to leave that institution, in which, as you know, he holds the office of Assayer. I have used every proper influence to prevent him from taking this step, - but in vain; for he informs me that he has sent his resignation to the President. I had hoped that if Mr. Cooper and Dr. Farnum could be brought together, this resignation might have been prevented, and this was one of my reasons for expressing to you a wish for an interview with Mr. Cooper.

It is very desirable that the resignation of Dr. Farnum may not interrupt the operations of the Dahlonega Mint, which are now so considerable. During his absence of a month, or leave, his place has been filled, under a provision of the 4<sup>th</sup> Section of the Mint Act of Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1837, by Isaac L. Todd, one of the workmen of the Mint,

Received of the Mint of the U.S. May 9, 1843.



who has been doing service in the Assay-  
room. Under the instructions of Dr. Far-  
nham, I understand that Mr. Todd has  
been taught to make satisfactory assays  
of the gold usually brought for coinage  
from the Georgia mines. I am informed  
at the same time, however, that he is a man  
without education, - wholly ignorant of che-  
mistry, - merely acquainted with the rou-  
tine of an ordinary assay, - and likely to  
be entirely baulked if any new combina-  
tion of metals should be presented to him.  
In leaving the business of Assayer tempo-  
rarily in his hands, Dr. Farnham has  
shown that he was not willing to place  
full trust in his accuracy, - having re-  
quired, (with our consent,) that the assays  
made during this interval should be tested  
at the Philadelphia Mint. - Such is the  
present condition of things in the Assay  
department at Dahlonega.

Now if the resignation of Dr. Far-  
nham be accepted, as of the present date  
the functions of Mr. Todd, which, under  
the law, are strictly vicarious, must  
immediately cease, and with them the



operations of the Dahlmege Mint must be suspended. — I therefore felt it my duty to ask Dr. Farnum to frame his letter of resignation as to leave time for the President to select a suitable successor; while, in the interim, the business of the Branch Mint may go on, under its present arrangement, with such modifications as may be rendered necessary by existing circumstances.

I feel great delicacy in approaching the question of a successor to Dr. Farnum, who is unexcelled for skill and accuracy. The office is one of great importance and trust; and the standing of the Mint with the public must greatly depend upon the confidence that can be placed in the assayer. He ought certainly to be a man of education, and acquainted with chemistry as a science; and, after his appointment, he ought, by all means, to have an opportunity of witnessing and practising the art of assaying here, before he enters upon the performance of duties of so much delicacy and responsibility as those to be entrusted to him.



If a suitable candidate be known to the President or yourself, I shall be happy to welcome him into the Mint corps, and to give him every opportunity for obtaining a practical knowledge of his duties. If no such person be suggested to you, I hope that I shall be able, as I have heretofore done in the case of all the operative officers, to find an individual whom I could safely recommend, - though I have not, at present, any one in view.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To Hon. Jas. C. Spencer,  
Secy. of the Treasury.

Mr. - 279  
June 6. 1848

Received the original  
line of Dr. T. H. Lawrence,  
as Attorney of the Board  
of the California Co.

Dr. T. H. Lawrence,  
Director of the Mint,  
Washington,  
May 11, 1848.

be returned to



82

Washington

T. Sept. May 18. 1843

Sir

It has occurred to us that among the articles which it would be expedient to send to China by our minister it would be well to include a complete set of the coins of the present year. After giving the present year on consultation with the President he concurs in the idea and if you see no practical difficulty, I leave you to have such a set prepared and packed in a neat case to be forwarded to the Embassador of China. The Engraving will depart in about a fortnight, and of course they should be ready before that time.

yours respectfully

Wm. Adams

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia



E. J.

Washington  
Treasury Department  
May 18. 1848.

Sir

It has occurred to us that among the articles which it would be expedient to send to China by our Minister, it would be well to include a complete set of the Coins issued during the present year. On consultation with the President he concurs in the idea, and if you see no practicable difficulty, I desire you to have such a set prepared and placed in a neat case to be presented to the Emperor of China. Mr Cushing will depart in about a fortnight, and of course they should be ready before that time.

Yours respectfully  
J. E. Spencer

Dr Robert M Patterson  
Director of the Mint  
Philadelphia



84

Mint of the United States,  
May 19. 1843.

Sir,

I had the honor of writing to you, on the 11th inst., on the subject of Dr. Hamann's resignation as Assayer of the Dahlonega Branch Mint, and of explaining fully the position in which that institution now stands, & that in which it would be placed should Dr. Hamann's resignation be accepted as of the present date.

I presume that the absence of the President from Washington has prevented any action being yet taken with regard to this resignation, and I should certainly not trouble you on the subject were it not for the extreme uneasiness shown by Dr. Hamann. I have never met any man so painfully anxious about the dangers of responsibility, and he desires therefore that if his resignation is not to be promptly accepted, some new regulations may be adopted for his protection, suited to the new circumstances.

I have no doubt myself as to the course which he ought to have taken, and I have freely told him so. He ought to have returned to his post, and, if determined to resign, he ought still to have retained office until replaced by his successor, or at least until reasonable time had been



allowed for the choice of a successor. I find, from my conversations with him, that he was prevented from taking this course by extreme sensitiveness as to what he considers the disgrace of being removed from office. He says he has the same enemies as Mr. Rossignol, & that he knows they would now be doubly active to procure his dismissal. As he is a very retired man in his habits, of unexceptionable character, a man of science, and a most excellent Assayer, I have felt a perfect assurance that he would never be disturbed in his position, but unfortunately I have not been able to convey this assurance to his mind.

An immediate vacancy in the Office of Assayer would necessarily arrest the operations of the Dahlonege Mint, & would be very embarrassing to Mr. Cooper in commencing the duties of a new office, I have taken the liberty of again calling your attention to the matter.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson

Director

To

Mr. Jos. C. Spencer }  
Secretary of Treasury.





I consulted Dr. Hammond's resignation  
 can justify the removal & was  
 advised, and that it was not  
 necessary to move it except it.  
 As the Board are opinion on the  
 resignation of a civil officer, and  
 leaving no power to confer  
 him a leave. We can do you  
 & send any man to continue in  
 office -

Write to Hammond at Philadelphia  
 acknowledging the receipt of  
 his letter resigning his post as  
 surgeon of the United States at Fort Mifflin

R. M. Patterson,  
 Director of the Mint,  
 Phila. May 19. 1843.

Respecting the resignation  
 of Mr. Hammond, Director of  
 the Mint, Mr. Smith, of the  
 Department of a des-  
 patch.

Mr - 248  
 May 22 - 1843



I concluded Dr. Farnum's resignation  
perfect the moment it was  
received, and that it was not  
necessary or usual to accept it.  
~~and~~ We have no option on the  
resignation of a civil officer, ~~and~~  
having no power to compel  
him to serve. We can do your  
best any man to continue in  
= office =

Write Dr. Farnum at Philadelphia  
acknowledging the receipt of  
his letter resigning his post as  
Assayer of the Mint at Baltimore

R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint,  
Phil. May 19. 1843.

Respecting the resignation  
of Dr. Farnum, Assayer of  
Baltimore Br. Mint, & the  
appointment of a suc-  
cessor.

M - 248  
May 22 - Louisville



851

Mint of the United States,  
May 24, 1843.

Sir,  
I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a report of the operations of the Mint and its  
Branches for the month of April. You will see  
that the amount of deposits and of coinage is  
large almost beyond a precedent. The fall  
in the rate of foreign exchange has, however,  
already produced its effect in the amount of  
our deposits.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,  
Hon. J. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }







86.

Mint of the United States,  
May 24. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d inst., regarding the resignation of Dr. Farnum as Assayer of the Dahlonega Mint, and the appointment of Green W. Caldwell, Esq. as Superintendent of the Charlotte Mint.

The continuance of Dr. Farnum in office, except until a successor could be appointed, was out of the question, and my solicitude on the subject had regard only to the evil of an interruption in the operations of the Mint at Dahlonega. This interruption has, however, now taken place; and I await with anxiety the appointment of a new Assayer, in order that the work at that Mint may be resumed with as little delay as possible.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To/ Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



87

Mint of the United States,  
May 31. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst., just brought to me from the Post-Office, where it had been detained by mistake.

Since the receipt of your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, no dollars have been coined at this Mint, and no eagles that were not specially asked for by the depositors. It is true that the demand for eagles has interfered with your views with regard to them, but it has seemed impossible not to conform with it, under the provision of the 30<sup>th</sup> Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, which requires "that in the denominations of coin delivered, the Treasurer shall comply with the wishes of the depositor, unless when impracticable or inconvenient to do so." With a large supply of smaller coins on hand, so that prompt payments could be made, we might justly plead this "inconvenience"; and, as the amount of gold deposits is diminishing, I hope that we shall soon be in this condition. I will see therefore that your



wishes as to the coinage of quarter-eagles  
be attended to both at this & the Branch  
Mints.

During the present month, our coinage  
of small silver has been very great; amount-  
ing to more than a million pieces; viz: 152,000  
quarter-dollars, 225,000 dimes, & 680,000 half-dimes.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Wm. Geo. C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of Treasury.



88

Mint of the United States,  
June 3. 1843.

Sir,

I take the liberty of transmitting, by the present mail, a box of dies for the New Orleans Branch Mint, properly directed on the inner envelope, which I beg you to forward under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Hon. Ans. C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

P.S. Three similar packages will be sent by the succeeding mails.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint,  
June 3. 1843.



89

Mint of the United States.  
June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I have duly received the check for \$22.50, drawn by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Caleb Cushing, and forwarded by you, to pay for a box of the Coins of the United States, sent for the use of his Mission.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

McClutrock Young, Esq.,  
Acting Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treasury.

Received of the  
Director of the  
Mint of the United States  
June 13, 1843.



Mint of the United States.

June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1843. 90

Sir,

I have the honor to send, herewith, my monthly report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the month of May.

You will observe that the amount of deposits, and of coinage is very considerable, at all the Mints.

In Silver, the proportion of small coins is greater than usual. The desire of the Department that special attention should be paid to the coinage of quarter-eagles has been attended to as far as practicable, though the result does not make its appearance in the present report. The whole amount of the government deposits of gold, - about \$105,000, - is either already in quarter-eagles, or will be so in a few days.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director)

Wm. C. C. Young, Esq.,  
Acting Sec<sup>y</sup> of Treasury

Office of the Director,  
Mint of the United States,  
Philadelphia, June 14. 1843



91

Mint of the United States.  
 June 22d, 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith,  
 the Official bond of Green W. Caldwell  
 Esq., Superintendent of the Branch  
 Mint at Charlotte, in which I have  
 written a certificate of my approval,  
 as required by the Branch Mint Act  
 of March 3d, 1835.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
 Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



92

Minist of the United States.  
July 8: 1843.

Sir, Your of the 6th inst., enclosing an extract from a letter from the Consul at Bremen, is just received. I have the following explanations to make, in regard to the subject contained in it. -

While the proposition was pending in Senate, a copy of the Bill was sent by Mr. Evans, requesting that it might be reviewed and corrected here. Among other amendments, I proposed one in relation to Bremen currency, in a letter to Mr. Evans, in these terms:

"One of the Hanse towns, Bremen, is an important port of trade between the United States, and Germany. Its thaler of 72 grotes is worth 71 cents. Ought it not to be included in the bill?"

That you may see that the subject is not free from perplexity, (no unusual thing in German money,) allow me to state the following facts.

In 1753, the principal Bremen coin was a piece of 48 grotes, worth about 54 U.S. cents; at which rate the Bremen thaler of 72 grotes, an imaginary money, was worth 81 cents. There was no coinage from that date till 1840. In the mean time, we have the Bremen thaler, quoted in London at 3s. 2d. Sterling, in 1821, and at 3s. 3.4d. in 1829. In 1840 there was a new coinage, of the half-thaler of 36 grotes, (of which I enclose an engraved fac-simile,) and lesser coins.



This half-thaler is worth, by assay, 35.7 U.S. Cents. The whole thaler is therefore 71.4 cents; but the necessary allowance for wear &c. requires that it should be rated above 71 cents.

Now the question is, whether this new coinage is the Bremen Standard of value, at home and abroad, or whether it is merely used for City-currency, (as is the case in Hamburg,) while the old imaginary thaler is continued, for foreign dealings? I am not able to solve this question.

I did, indeed, take it for granted that the real money superseded the nominal; but the Consul's letter rather conducts me to a different conclusion.

I observe he speaks only of currency, and not of coin; moreover, coined money would not be likely to be subject to such a prodigious fluctuation as that of 75 to 79 cents per thaler.

Such being the case, and as there is a six dollar assessed in the bill at  $78\frac{3}{4}$  cents, which is near the Consul's valuation, it may be granted, that this is the rate proper to be regarded in Custom-House transactions, at least, until the law can be modified.

Supposing that the coin is not the Standard, it is to be regretted that Bremen money was included in the act at all; for nothing is more difficult of adjustment, than the value of mere moneys of account.

During your recent visit at the Mint, you expressed a desire to be informed as to the value of the thaler of Saxony. Until recently, this was an imaginary thaler, equal to 72.9 U.S. Cents, now or less according to Exchange; but, as we have been expressly informed by Consul Ffiesel



le Thaler and "Saxonic" from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1841 the Saxon currency will  
 remain the same and the new coin be introduced " This new coin  
 is the Thaler of XIV to the fine mark and the same as the Prussian  
 is the 68½ U.S. dollars gets, average of coinage. This Thaler is divided  
 into 30 groschen.

I am, Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful Servant

R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

Hon: John C. Spencer  
 Secy of the Treasury



93

Mint of the United States.  
July 11, 1843.

Sir,

During your late visit to the Mint in company with the President, you did me the honor to ask my opinion as to the importance of confining our gold coinage as much as possible to quarter-eagles, with a view to prevent the exportation of our American gold coins.

I felt that the question was one to be decided by facts, and I accordingly addressed a letter of inquiry to three different persons whom I believed to be fully possessed of the information desired. Of this letter, and the answers received, I now send you the enclosed copies.



The present communication has been kept back, from a desire that it should accompany the report of coinage for the year but I have thought a further delay improper. In this report, you will see that your instructions as to the coinage of quarter-eagles have been followed as far as practicable.

I am, Sir, most respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson

Director.

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> Wm. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



94

"Mint of the U.S. State June 15 1863"

I have a particular interest in getting answers, on which I can depend, to the following questions; and no one is more able to give them than yourself. Your reply will therefore confer a great favor.

Have American gold coins been, at any time, sent abroad in any considerable quantities?

If they be so sent abroad, do you think that a coinage of gold into quarter-eagles would prevent the exportation?

Very respectfully & faithfully yours,  
R. M. Patterson "

George Newbold Esq Pres 19<sup>th</sup> of America N York

Charles Macaluta Esq Philadelphia

George W. Beebe Esq Philadelphia  
(Sent by him to Beebe & Marshall, New York)



"Bank of America June 16 1837

"Dear Sir,

I have rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of the 15th inst. & I have the pleasure to state in reply, that I am not aware that American gold coins have been exported in any considerable quantity for several years past. When the rate of foreign exchange is so high as to call for or justify an export of coins, the Bank has preferred to American gold coins - There are not "put up" any occasionally some American gold coins exported to the West Indies, but the amount is not large, as Doubloons are preferred and make a better remittance to most of the islands except when they are scarce & bear a high price. There are also some American Gold Coins sent into Canada but they principally find their way back again in the course of trade. When in American gold coins are exported to France or England, they go as bullion, and it is of course wholly immaterial whether they be in quarter Eagles or in the larger coins.

I am very respectfully

Your ob<sup>d</sup> servant

Geo Newbold

"Wm. Patterson Esq  
Director U. S. State Mint  
Philad<sup>a</sup>

Pest<sup>z</sup>

In  
Director,  
that for several  
Dollar of Amer  
sent abroad  
Bank has preferred  
known of no  
"put up" any  
at other  
state them  
receiving  
eagles, would  
if such  
W.M. Patterson  
W. Patterson  
W. Patterson  
Director,  
in regard  
that in 1837  
since a  
small amount  
England and France  
the gold



"No 70 Dock St June 15. 1843

Sir, In answer to your note of this morning I can only  
 state that for several years past I have not known of the exportation  
 of a dollar of American Gold. In 1837 & 1839 there was, undoubtedly  
 sent abroad by the U.S. Bank & others in the hurry (occasioned  
 by the Bank suspensions) to send forward remittances - Since then  
 I have known of none. The largest specie dealer informs me he  
 has never "put up" any for Export. The reasons why it has  
 gone at other periods than those spoken of are obvious.  
 I do not think that the coinage of  
 quarter eagles would make any difference in the demand for  
 Banknotes if such a demand should occur.

With much regard - yours truly  
 C. Macalester "

Wm. Patterson

New York June 17 1843

Wm. Patterson Esq  
 U.S. Mint Philad<sup>a</sup>

Sir, In answer to enquiries made by Messrs. Parthal  
 & Co in regard to the exportation of American gold coins - We  
 notice that in 1837 large shipments were made both to England &  
 France since which no shipments have been made except  
 a small amount to France in 1839 American gold coins in  
 England and France being of value no greater than Ingots of same fineness,  
 the gold coins of France & England bearing a higher relative



value in both countries, a preference of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1% is given  
 within favor, consequently American Gold Coins  
 have not been exported when Foreign were obtainable.

The late law of Congress reducing the legal value of  
 French & English gold coins will give a further prefer-  
 ence of  $\frac{1}{5}$  % within favor for Export.  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  or whole pieces  
 may be exported with equal advantage.

An occasional demand has existed for a  
 year or two past for American Gold coins for Export  
 to the West India Islands, but the amounts have  
 been inconsiderable.

Very resp<sup>y</sup> —

Yours ob<sup>ly</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Reber & Marshall



At the Court of Sessions  
 held at the City of  
 Edinburgh,  
 July 11, 1843.

Discharging the Curator  
 of the Poor of Glasgow.

W<sup>m</sup> Brown Secy.

Mr. Meakin

As Mr. Macdonald is not the  
 Curator on which your report is  
 based, and who has since  
 in your conduct on that  
 account.

As Mr. Macdonald is not  
 Curator -

where the same -



9/5

Mint of the United States.  
July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending, by the present mail, two boxes, containing dies for the Branch Mint at Dahlmeza, which I pray you to cause to be forwarded, under your frank, as heretofore.

May I ask that you will do me the favor to inform me, when the appointment of Assayer for the Dahlmeza Mint is made. I find, from Mr. Cooper's correspondence, that the depositions are very clamorous for their coins. If the President's choice of Assayer falls upon Mr. Todd, the work will go forward without further delay;



but if any other individual be chosen  
no time should be lost in giving  
him the needful instructions in the  
business of the office.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer, &  
Secretary of the Treasury.



DP

Washington

Treasury Department

July 17, 1866.

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> inst I beg to inform you that Mr Todd has been appointed Adm't for the Dablonaga Branch since some days since.

The two boxes of dice for the Branch sent to Sublonaga have been received.

Very respectfully,  
 John A. B. Lewis

J. C. Quinn

Dr. B. A. Patterson

Director of the School

Philadelphias

Am



96

Mint of the U. States  
July 17<sup>th</sup> 1843

Sir,

I have the honor to return to you the Surety Bonds of James F. Cooper Superintendent, and Augustus M. Russell Clerk of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, with the certificates, <sup>as</sup> required by law, that I find them satisfactory. I cannot, however, avoid an expression of regret that Mr. Cooper should have himself become one of the Sureties for Mr. Russell; since it is mainly to the Superintendent that the government has to look for any exposure of infidelity on the part of his Clerk, and he therefore, as I think, ought not to have <sup>subjected</sup> ~~exposed~~ himself to the temptation or the accusation of any personal interest for concealing his delinquencies.

Very Respectfully  
Your faithful Servant  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Hon: John C. Spencer  
Secy of the Treasury



some more color will be  
given up -

Wm. W. McNamee,  
Director of the Office  
Philadelphia,  
July 17, 1843.

With the society hands  
of James T. Cooper,  
J. Edgar. W. Russell,  
Superintendent & Clerk  
of Branch & Unit at  
Oak Grove.

The Bureau are respectfully submitted  
to the Secretary for his approval.  
G. Patterson expresses his regret that  
Mr. Cooper should have become one of  
the smelter for the Clerk - as it is the  
suspicion that the Bureau has taken for the  
expense of any individual on the part  
the Clerk.

Respectfully submitted  
G. W. McNamee

Respectfully submitted

Wm. W. McNamee

Respectfully submitted  
James T. Cooper  
in which some other names appear  
submitted for his review the same



98  
Mint of the United States.  
July 18. 1843. (B)

Sir,  
In your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> inst., you do me the honor to inquire "the terms on which gold deposited at the Mint is coined, and why foreign coins in good condition are sent for re-coinage."

As I presume that your inquiries have regard only to French & British Coins, I have to state, in answer to the first question, - that ~~for~~ the re-coinage of French gold there is no charge made, and no deduction unless it may be occasionally for a slight loss on remelting when the coins are old and dirty. - I will take, as an example, a deposit of 20 fr. pieces, made by the Bank of America.

|                                                                |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| The weight before melting was                                  | 5,584. 30 oz   |
| " " after " "                                                  | 5,584. 07 "    |
| U.S. Coins returned                                            | \$ 103,774. 23 |
| Legal Value at 92.9 ct per drwt of <small>first weight</small> | " 103,756. 29  |
| Gained by re-coinage                                           | \$ 17. 94      |

Now this trifling difference is far from sufficing for paying the transportation of the Specie from N.York and back again.

As to British gold, since its fineness averages 915½ thousandths, while our standard is 900, we have to add alloy, and for this a small charge is made. It is also when old subject to a deduction for loss on remelting.

I present to you, as an example.



a deposit of Sovereigns recently made by the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Philad<sup>a</sup>.

|                                                               |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| The weight before melting was                                 | 15,760.01 oz |
| " " After "                                                   | 15,758.57 "  |
| Charge for Alloy, \$8.13.                                     |              |
| United States Coins returned, \$                              | 298,222.70   |
| Legal value at 94.6 cts p <sup>ct</sup> amt. of first weight, | 298,179.39   |
| Gain on recoinage                                             | \$ 43.31     |

This very trifling advance on an amount of nearly \$300,000, cannot, it is evident, have been the object of the recoinage.

For exportation, the recoinage is evidently an -advantageous to the holder; since the British Sovereigns as in England, equivalent to bullion 916<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> thousandths fine, while we have received them at their true standard of 900. In like manner the French coins are equivalent in France, to bullion at 900, while we receive them at 899.

Since I received your letter I have been at pains to inquire what is the true object in the view of the depositors when they procure the recoinage of foreign gold, and the uniform answer given to me is that the American coins are wanted for American circulation.

They say that our people do not know the foreign coins are uncertain as to their value, - are suspicious of them in ordinary transactions, at least out of the large cities, and



Mr. Beebe informs me that U.S. Gold coins are in great request by travellers, who willingly give for them  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. premium. The foreign coins do not answer their purpose. A case has come to my knowledge in which a traveller who had furnished himself with British sovereigns became very much embarrassed by them being rejected as payment, & was at last glad to exchange them, at a Bank at Eastern Penna., for 4.80 each, - being a discount of very nearly one per cent.

Mr. Macalester, who has recently returned from an extensive tour through the Southern & Western States, says that U.S. gold coins are becoming much more common there, in the hands both of travellers & dealers, & that foreign coins cannot be substituted for them, notwithstanding the act making them coins a legal tender. It is, he thinks, this circumstance which is giving rise to the large recoinage of foreign gold at the N. Orleans Mint.

I inquired of Mr. Beebe why U.S. gold coins were, a few months ago, in such demand for remittances to N. Orleans, and his answer was that they then commanded there a premium of  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. over other specie, in which foreign gold coins.

The conclusion to which these facts seem to lead is that the demand for U.S. gold coins is increasing, that their use is becoming more general, - and that they are gradually introducing among us a specie circulation more convenient than Silver for many purposes, & more likely to be retained in the country.



9.9

*Money drawn from the Treasury on account of the Mint of the United States and Branches, Exclusive of Buildings*

| <i>Heads of Appropriations.</i>                                | <i>1838.</i> | <i>1839.</i> | <i>1840.</i> | <i>1841.</i> | <i>1842.</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Mint of the U. States, Philad<sup>a</sup></i>               |              |              |              |              |              |
| <i>Officers and Clerks</i>                                     | —            | 40,800.      | 20,400.      | 18,900.      | 19,200.      |
| <i>Contingent Expenses &amp; Repairs</i>                       | 8,700.       | 7,000.       | 17,300.      | 10,695.61    | 10,300.      |
| <i>Pay of Laborers &amp; Contingent Expenses</i>               | —            | 24,600.      | 36,000.      | 16,300.      | 31,700.      |
| <i>New Machinery and Apparatus</i>                             | 10,000.      | 3,000.       | 3,000.       | —            | —            |
| <i>Specimens of Coins and Coins</i>                            | —            | 1,000.       | 1,000.       | 1,000.       | 200.         |
|                                                                | 18,700.      | 76,400.      | 77,700.      | 46,895.61    | 61,400.      |
| <i>Branch Mint, New Orleans.</i>                               |              |              |              |              |              |
| <i>Officers and Clerks</i>                                     | 5,444.75     | 79,225.      | 11,700.      | 14,194.30    | 12,900.      |
| <i>Wastage of Gold &amp; Contingent Expenses</i>               | 11,000.      | 35,275.      | 16,500.      | 20,400.      | 17,300.      |
| <i>Compensation to Laborers</i>                                | 20,553.22    | 17,000.      | 17,850.      | 19,100.      | 14,320.      |
|                                                                | 37,000.      | 71,500.      | 45,780.      | 53,694.30    | 44,520.      |
| <i>Branch Mint, Charlotte.</i>                                 |              |              |              |              |              |
| <i>Officers and Clerks</i>                                     | 5,500.       | 7,500.       | 7,500.       | 4,500.       | 7,500.       |
| <i>Wastage of Gold &amp; Contingent Expenses</i>               | 4,400.       | 6,700.       | 2,500.       | 1,700.       | 2,500.       |
| <i>Compensation to Laborers</i>                                | 3,600.       | 3,600.       | 3,500.       | 2,400.       | 4,450.       |
|                                                                | 13,500.      | 17,200.      | 13,500.      | 8,000.       | 14,450.      |
| <i>Branch Mint, Tallonega.</i>                                 |              |              |              |              |              |
| <i>Officers and Clerks</i>                                     | 8,750.       | 4,500.       | 7,000.       | 5,430.       | 5,977.55     |
| <i>Wastage of Gold and Conting<sup>t</sup> Exp<sup>s</sup></i> | 3,550.       | 1,000.       | 3,000.       | 500.         | 1,460.       |
| <i>Compensation to Laborers</i>                                | 3,000.       | 2,900.       | 3,036.       | 2,760.       | 2,880.       |
|                                                                | 15,300.      | 8,400.       | 13,036.      | 8,150.       | 10,317.55    |



100

Expenses of the Mint at Philadelphia from 1792 to 1842 inclusive

|                                                                                     |               |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Building Mint Establishment, purchasing lots, and<br>erecting buildings, since 1829 | 198,474.80.   |              |
| New Machinery since 1836                                                            | 43,000. -     |              |
| All other Expenses of the Mint up to the 31. Decr. 42                               | 2,289,775.92. | 2,531,250.72 |

|                                             |             |            |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Expenses of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. |             |            |
| Buildings and Machinery                     | 307,588.55. |            |
| Apparatus, fixtures & tools                 | 15,171. -   |            |
| All other Expenses to 31. Decr. 1842        | 268,049.52  | 591,809.07 |

|                                          |            |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Expenses of the Branch Mint at Charlotte |            |            |
| Buildings and Machinery                  | 58,612.20. |            |
| Apparatus, fixtures & tools              | 6,564. -   |            |
| All other Expenses to 31. Decr. 1842.    | 84,116.66. | 149,292.86 |

|                                           |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Expenses of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega. |            |            |
| Buildings and Machinery                   | 61,868.50. |            |
| Apparatus, fixtures & tools               | 7,565. -   |            |
| All other Expenses to 31. Decr. 1842.     | 66,707.71. | 135,541.21 |

|                                                             |    |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|---------------|
| Total Cost & Expenses of Mint & Branches to 31. Decr. 1842. | \$ | 3,407,893.86. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|---------------|

The appropriations for Buildings for the Mint at Philadelphia were not specific prior to the year 1829, and the expenditures for that object could be ascertained only on examination of all the accounts of the Mint from 1792 to that period.



101

Mint of the United States.  
July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith  
a Report of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches for the month of June.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Enclosure 2



103

Mint of the United States.  
July 28, 1843

Sir,

The cent forwarded to you from  
Rockland County, N. Y., by Mr. A. P.  
Stephens, is perfectly genuine.

Mr. Stephens observes that "the Coun-  
try is inundated by them." If this  
is any where carried so far as to be an  
annoyance, the remedy is simple, inas-  
much as copper coins are not a legal ten-  
der in payment, and may be refused.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Stephens,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



105

104

Philad. Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1843.

Sir,

Several weeks since, the  
Director of the Mint made  
application to the Superintendent  
of the Dahlonega Branch Mint,  
in my behalf, for the payment  
of the small balance due me, on  
account of my salary, as the latter,  
arranges.

This application having received  
no notice on the part of Mr.  
Cooper, I will esteem it a par-  
ticular favour in you, to aid me  
in procuring a settlement, as  
contemplate a temporary absence  
from the Country. I have the honor  
to be, with great respect,  
Yours, &c. J. W. Farnum.  
John C. Spencer, Treasurer.



104

Mint of the United States,  
 Aug. 18. 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th with a package of coins for the next Annual Assay, received from the coinage of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and bring the packages of the present year.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,  
 Director.

To,

Hon. J. C. Spencer,  
 Secretary of Treasury.

}



Mint of the United States. 1055

Sept. 4th, 1843.

Sir,  
I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a Report of the operations of the Mint  
and Branches for the month of July.  
It has been kept back, to this late  
day, in consequence of a necessary de-  
lay in the report from Dahlbom,  
caused by the vacancy in the Office  
of Assayer. Mr. Todd, since his  
appointment, has had to make, for  
this report, 125 assays of deposits  
received in July. — The Superinten-  
dent, Mr. Cooper, in a letter of the 26th  
ult., says: "We are getting on quite  
brandy now; the coinage this past  
week amounting to \$37,000."

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director

To  
Hon. Mr. C. Spencer, }  
Sec. of Treasury. }



106.

Mint of the United States.  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., with the Surety Bond of Isaac L. Todd, Assayer of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, which I return herewith, with the requisite certificate that it is to my satisfaction.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of a third package of coins, transmitted under your frank, from the Dahlonega Branch Mint, for the annual assay.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

(Director.)



106.

Mint of the United States.  
Sept. 9, 1843.

Sir,

In a letter to you, of the 18th ult., I acknowledged the receipt of the first of a series of seven packages of coins, sent from the Branch Mint at New Orleans, for the annual assay. I have now the honor to state to you that the whole of these packages, sent under your frank, have come safely to hand.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



check

108

Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 27, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith a statement of the deposits and coinage at the Mint and its Branches in the month of August. It has been kept back for the report from Dahlonega, which was not received till yesterday, and which, under the circumstances of that Branch, could not have been expected earlier.

The whole amount of coinage, for the eight months of the present year now reported, is \$8,114,901.92. The largest annual coinage that has occurred heretofore was in 1836, (before the Branches went into operation,) and amounted \$7,764,900.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

H. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Hon. A. C. Spencer,

Secretary of Treasury.



109

Mint of the United States.  
Sept. 28, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> inst., and, with it, of the first of a series of packages, containing coins for the annual assay, sent from the Branch Mint at Dahlmeigal.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

P. M. Patterson,  
Mint of the U. S. Treasury



110

Mint of the United States.  
Oct. 20, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., enclosing a new bond given by Mr. Augustus M. Russell, Clerk of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, sent for my approval. — This bond I herewith return, with the certificate, required by the act of March 3, 1835, that it is to my satisfaction.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To/ Mr. John C. Spencer, &  
Secretary of the Treasury.)

Received of the Branch Mint,  
Dahlonega, Ga. 28. 1843.  
1843



111

Mint of the United States.

Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27<sup>th</sup>, with the sixth package of coins for the annual assay, sent by the Branch Mint at Dahlbroug, - the previous five packages having also come duly and safely to hand.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
 Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct. 1843  
 P. M. Patterson  
 Oct. 30, 1843



112

Mint of the United States.  
Oct. 31, 1843.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies for the New Orleans Mint, properly directed on the inner envelope, and which I pray you to forward under your frank, as heretofore. A similar box will be sent tomorrow.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To / Mr. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
Nov. 15th, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith a report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the month of September. It has been thus long delayed, in the expectation of receiving a report from New Orleans; but as none has yet come to hand, I have thought it proper to send my report with this omission. There was a suspension of work, at the New Orleans Mint, during part of the time; but, no doubt, deposits were received.

Very respectfully

Yours faithfully,  
Hon. Mr. C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. } R. M. Patterson,  
Directors

Received of the Mint of the United States, Nov. 15th, 1843.



Sir,

Wm. H. Patterson  
Director U. S. Mint  
Phil. Nov. 6. 1873

The machine in question was invented by Rufus Tyler, the first Coiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, who fell a victim to the yellow fever, in 1839. It is exceedingly simple and ingenious, and so ~~effectual~~ accurate and expeditious in its operation, as to be of great importance to this Mint and that at New Orleans. For



large coins, it need not be employed, because they can be counted by piles, since the difference of our piece makes a sensible difference in the height of a pile. (This is not the case with dimes and half-dimes, which must consequently be counted one by one; and when it is to be done, so many hands were required, that it was necessary to interrupt the operations of the Mint.)

Under these circumstances, I deemed it proper to introduce the employment of Mr. Tyler's invention, the property of which is in his widow, and I agreed to pay her, for the privilege, at the rate of three cents on every thousand pieces counted, and delivered from the Coiner to the Treasurer. This is by no means all the counting done, but it is an amount that can be ascertained with certainty. The tariff determined upon was the result of my careful experiments as to the cost of counting by hand, and a note



adopted which, at most, should not exceed  
<sup>the</sup> cost.

Your suggestion that a purchase of the  
 patent right for the Mints might be desir-  
 able, in an economical point of view, is  
 undoubtedly correct, and I have accordingly  
 introduced an estimate item for this  
 purpose, in the estimates which I am  
 about to send to the Department, to be  
 laid before Congress.

It is proper to mention that the Count-  
 ing machines which we use were made  
 by the mint and belong to it; it is for  
 the privilege of using them that we pay.  
 Three millions of small coins have been  
 delivered from the Coiner to the Treasurer  
 this year.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

J. W. McCulloch, Esq.  
 Comptroller of Treasury.



Hint of the

For the use  
small court

by agreement  
465, thousand

681, "

521 "

1465 "

Rec<sup>d</sup> July 20.

W. H. Patterson,  
Director U.S. Mint,  
Dist. Jan. 7. 1893.

Reply to Comptroller's letter  
of 2<sup>nd</sup> inst., explaining a  
bill of Exch. paper paid  
by the Mint, for the  
use of a counting ma-  
chine. - States also that  
he has asked an appor-  
portion for its purchase.

WHP

Respectfully referred to the  
Secretary of the Treasury  
8 Nov '93  
Wm. D. Lusk  
Comptroller

6841

Nov 8  
Wm. D. Lusk



115

Copy

Philadelphia July 20<sup>th</sup> 1843

Mint of the United States,

D<sup>r</sup> to Elizabeth Tyler

For the use of a patent apparatus for counting  
small coins at 4 cents per thousand pieces, as  
by agreement made with the Director, viz,

465, thousand - Dimes

680, " 1/2 "

320 " 1/4 Dollars

1,465 " pieces at 4 cents per thousand -- \$ 58.60

Rec<sup>d</sup> July 20. 1843 payment of this bill in full.

(Signed) Elizabeth Tyler

Received of the  
Mint of the United States  
the sum of \$ 58.60  
July 20. 1843.



N<sup>o</sup> 108

Copy

116

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia July 20. 1843.

To Isaac Roach \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer,

the sum of fifty eighty \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars,  
 sixty cents, being for carriage expenses, according to bill  
 rendered; viz, for the use of a patent apparatus for counting  
 small coins. \_\_\_\_\_

And for so doing this shall be your Warrant

(Signed) R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

\$58.60



Copy

Mint of the United States.

July 20<sup>th</sup> 1843

Warrant No 108

In favor of

Elizabeth Tyler.

To pay bill for

Carriage - expended.

viz, for the use of a patent

apparatus for counting small coins

\$58.60

Received July 20<sup>th</sup> 1843, of  
 Treasurer of the Mint, on behalf  
 of the United States, the  
 amount of the within Warrant

(Signed) Elizabeth Tyler.



117

Mint of the United States.  
Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1843.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you  
herewith estimates of the expenses of  
the Mint and its Branches, for the  
fiscal year ending Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, 1845,  
and divided into half-years, in com-  
pliance with instructions from the  
Department.

Accompanying the estimates for  
the Principal Mint, is a full state-  
ment of the grounds on which it is  
founded, including former appropri-  
ations unexpended and still available.

The estimates for the Mint at  
New Orleans are founded upon repre-  
sentations communicated to me by

in question.



the officers. The great increase in the operations of that Mint has involved a corresponding increase in its expenses. In the items of Contingent expenses for the fiscal year, is included a sum of \$ 5000, for pay of machinists, repairs, and new machinery, which has been asked for, and which I believe to be necessary.

The appropriations applied for by the Mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega have appeared to me to be just, and even moderate, when viewed in connection with the increase of their coinage.

Copies of the estimates, but not of the statements on which they are made, are sent to the Register of the Treasury.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. } P. W. Patterson



118

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 30. 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to send you here-  
with my monthly report of the operations  
of the Mint and its Branches for October.

In my last, I stated that I had  
received no report, from the Auburn  
Branch, of their operations in September.  
I have since been informed that they  
had neither deposits nor coinage du-  
ring that month.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



119

Mint of the U. States,  
Dec. 7. 1843.

Sir,

The time has arrived for sending  
to the Branch Mints their dies for 1844,  
and I take the liberty of transmitting to  
you, by the present mail, the first box  
of the series for New Orleans, & shall con-  
tinue to send them by the successive mails.  
They will all be properly directed on the  
inner envelopes, and I beg that you will  
forward them, as heretofore, under your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

Director.

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer,

Secretary of Treasury.

R. M. Patterson.



28

Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 15. 1843.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., announcing a draft on the United States deposit at the Mint, for \$100,000.

In consequence of this communication, I have made inquiry into the state of our Bullion accounts bearing upon the case, and the following are the results:

There is to the credit of the U.S. Bullion account ————— \$304,960.94

Composed of deposits of Silver of \$200,056.78

" " " Gold 104,904.16.

There is on hand, of Gold Coins \$71,445.17

Of which is due to individual depositors, 57,874.66

Balance, \$13,570.51

There is on hand, of Silver Coins, \$44,368.91

Of which is due to depositors 9,120.07

Balance, \$35,248.84

So that the Treasurer of the Mint has, at present, for the payment of the draft which has been announced, ————— \$48,819.35

But the whole Silver Balance, viz: \$35,248.84 is in small coins, (quarters, dimes, & half-dimes,) and therefore, I presume, not available for the object in question.



The balance of the U.S. deposits, viz: \$256,141.59, is in the hands of the Melted & Refiner, and of the Chief Coiner, in the various forms assumed by bullion during its passage through the operations of the Mint. Of this amount, the Melted & Refiner has about \$50,000 in gold ingots, and the Chief Coiner about \$75,000 nearly ready to be delivered in half-dollars. These two amounts will be available in a short time: all the rest is in forms which will necessarily give rise to delay. Indeed there is about \$11,000 actually lost by wastage, and which is to be supplied from the money appropriated for contingent expenses.

The above statements show that the drafts of which you have given notice cannot be paid by the Mint, without some time being allowed; and that it cannot be paid in gold without great delay, and without exhausting our gold deposits, and putting an end to the system of prompt payments in regard to this metal. Our whole U.S. deposits of gold is less than \$105,000 dollars; and yet with this small capital we have been obliged to conduct a business of gold deposits already exceeding, in the present year, four millions of dollars. In a letter which I had the honor to address to you on the 20th of March last, I explained the inconveniences which arose from the smallness of our gold bullion fund at that time, viz: \$54,904; and



you very liberally gave us drafts on New York,  
for \$100,000, with a view to increase it. Un-  
fortunately only \$50,000 of this could be per-  
formed in gold; so that, during the year, we  
have frequently found our deposits inadequate  
to the functions which it had to perform.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
(Director)

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



121

Mint of the United States,  
December 23. 1873.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a statement of the operations of the Mint  
and Branches, in the month of November.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To: Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of Treasury.

Mr. Wm. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint,  
Washington, D.C.  
Dec. 15. 1873.



An Estimate of the Expenses of the Mint at Philadelphia,  
for the half-year ending June 30, 1843.

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:

The Director, \$1,750.

The Treasurer, 1,000.

The Chief Coiner, 1,000.

The Assayer, 1,000.

The Melter & Refiner, 1,000.

The Engraver, 1,000.

The Assistant Assayer, 650.

One Clerk \$600, - Two \$550. each, - One \$500., 2,200.

\$ 9,600.

For Wages of Workmen,

12,000.

For Specimens of Bars & Coins, to be  
received at the Mint,

300.

\$21,900.



123

Min't of the United States.  
Jan. 6th, 1844.

Sir, I had the honor to receive, yesterday, your letter of the 3d inst., asking for information respecting the estimates sent in by me, for the Min't and its Branches, for the next fiscal year; this information having been applied for by the Committee of Ways & Means. I had hoped to be able to answer this inquiry to-day, but I find it impracticable to do so; I will send a reply, however, on Monday or Tuesday.

You mention that my monthly report for October had not come to hand. I find, from my letter-book, that it was sent to you on the 20th of November. A copy is now enclosed.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,

Wm. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

P. W. Patterson,  
Director.



124

Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 13, 1844.

Sir,

The meeting of the Commissioners for the Annual Assay at the Mint, provided for by the act of June 18, 1837, was held yesterday; and I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the minutes of their proceedings.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



( Copy. )

128

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 12, 1844.

The Commissioners appointed under the 32<sup>d</sup> Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, met in conformity with the provisions of that act, for the purpose of making the annual trial of the gold and silver coins received at the Mint and its Branches, during the year 1843.

Present:

|                                                                             |                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Hon. Archibald Randall, Judge of the U.S. Dist. Court, Eas. Dist. of Penn., | } Commissioners<br><u>ex officio</u> . |
| Henry M. Watts, Esq., U.S. Attorney for the Eastern Dist. of Penn.,         |                                        |
| Calvin Blythe, Esq., Collector of the Port of Philadelphia,                 |                                        |

|                                           |                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Edward Coles Esq., of Philadelphia,       | } Commissioners<br>designated by<br>the President. |
| Prof. James Renwick, of New York,         |                                                    |
| Samuel W. Merrick, Esq., of Philadelphia, |                                                    |

Also present the following Officers of the Mint:

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| The Director,     | The Melter & Refiner,  |
| The Treasurer,    | The Assayer,           |
| The Chief Coiner, | The Assistant Assayer. |

The Engraver was prevented from attending by sickness.

Count of the Reserved Coins.

The gold and silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint, received, from time to time, during the year 1843, for the



Annual Assay, according to the provisions of the 27th Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, were taken from the chest in which they had been kept, and were counted, and the number and kind of pieces compared with the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance.

Also the gold and silver coins from the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and the gold coins from the Branch Mint at Charlotte, N.C., and Dahlonega, Geo., — transmitted under seal to the Director of the Mint agreeably to the provisions of the 4th Sect. of the Act of March 3, 1835, to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States, — were counted, and the number and kind of pieces compared with the registers, and were found to correspond with them in every instance, except that in the gold coins of New Orleans Branch Mint there was one half-eagle, and in the silver coins there were two half-dollars in excess.

### Weight of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of coins should be weighed; when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$2,487.50; and consequently their legal standard weight <sup>was</sup> 133.703 oz. Their actual weight was found to be 133.701 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$263.40; and consequently their legal



Standard weight was 226.359 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 226.387 ounces; so that they exceeded the standard weight by twenty-eight thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$3,155; and consequently their legal standard weight was 169.581 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 169.573 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by eight thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the value of \$272.50; and consequently their legal standard weight was 234.180 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 234.155 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by twenty-five thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint were of the value of \$460; and consequently their legal standard weight was 244.725 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 244.727 ounces; so they exceeded the standard weight by two thousandths of an ounce.

The reserved gold coins of the Dahlonega Branch Mint were of the value of \$1,245; and consequently their legal standard weight was 66.919 oz. Their actual weight was found to be 66.920; so that they exceeded the standard weight by one thousandth of an ounce.

It appeared therefore that the deviations from standard weight were, in every instance, within the limits allowed by law.

#### Assay of Retained Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of gold and silver coins



should be melted, and cast into separate bars, and assayed; when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 899.9 thousandths; and were therefore one tenth of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900.6 thousandths; and were therefore six tenths of a thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 899.5 thousandths; and were therefore five tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint were of the fineness of 898.6 thousandths; and were therefore one and four tenths thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Branch Mint were of the fineness of 899.8 thousandths; and were therefore two tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the Dahomey Br. Mint were of the fineness of 899.9 thousandths; and were therefore one tenth of a thousandth below the legal standard.

It appeared therefore that the deviations from standard fineness were, in every instance, within the limits allowed by law.

The Commissioners accordingly approve the gold & silver coins issued at the Mint & its Branches during the year 1843.

#### Examination of the Weights.

The Commissioners then, in compliance with the provision of the 3d Sect. of the Act of May 19, 1828, proceeded to test the accuracy of the weights ordinarily employed at the Mint by comparing them with the series of standard weights kept for the purpose, and the correspondence was found to be in every instance satisfactory.

(Signed) Arch<sup>d</sup>. Randall.

Edw. M. Watts, Atty U.S.E.D.P.

Mr. Blythe was called away before signing.

Edward Coles,

Jas. Renwick,

S. V. Mernick,

R. M. Patterson, Director.



126  
Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 14, 1844.

Sir,

Mr. Rufus Tyler, First Coiner of the Mint at New Orleans, and a Mechanician of great skill and ingenuity, died, at his post, of the yellow fever, on the 8th of Sept. 1839; leaving a wife and children unprotected for, and who are now in Philadelphia, in narrow & distressing circumstances.

Shortly before his death, Mr. Tyler invented an apparatus for counting small coins, which operates with great rapidity and unquestionable accuracy. A patent-right to it was secured for the benefit of his family, and is almost their only legacy.

Now Counting is not only one of the most important, but is also, as formerly practised, one of the most tedious and time-consuming operations of the Mint. For the large coins, the labor is, indeed, much diminished, by counting them in heaps, which are known to contain the same number of pieces, from their being of the same height. But, for the small coins, this method cannot be relied upon, because the difference of one piece, in the height of a pile, cannot be seen with sufficient certainty; and consequently these coins, (or at least the dimes and half-dimes,) have to be counted one-by-one. Hence it became necessary, whenever counting was to be done,



to employ so many men, as always to interrupt some one or more of the mechanical operations of the Mint.

Under these circumstances, it was deemed expedient to make an arrangement with the present holder of the patent-right, (the Widow of Mr. Tyler,) for the privilege of using the counting machine at the Philadelphia and New Orleans Mints. For this purpose I caused trials to be made, with great care, for ascertaining what would be the cost of the labor saved by the employment of the counting-boards; and I found that a fair and moderate estimate made it amount to 4 cents on 1000 pieces, reckoning only the pieces delivered by the Coiner to the Treasurer and omitting all the preliminary countings.

To give an idea of the saving of time and labor, by the new mode of counting, I may mention that the boards employed count 400 quarter-dollars at a time, 500 dimes, or 800 half-dimes; and that one man can count, in an hour, 7,000 quarter-dollars, 15,000 dimes, or 20,000 half-dimes.

It is thought advisable by the friends of Mrs. Tyler and I think it very desirable for the Mints, that the existing arrangement between the parties should be continued by a purchase of the perpetual right to the use of the counting apparatus for the Mints and Branch Mints of the United States; and it is proposed that \$2500 should be appropriated and paid for this purpose. To show that this change is a moderate one, I present



The Subjoined Statement of the Number of Small silver coins, struck at the Mints at Philadelphia and New Orleans, in the last four years, with the corresponding Charges for the use of the Counting apparatus.

|                  |                   |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Year 1840, - - - | Number 5,425,992: | Charge \$217.04. |
| " 1841, " "      | 6,167,000:        | " 246.68.        |
| " 1842, " "      | 5,929,500:        | " 237.18.        |
| " 1843, " "      | 4,298,600:        | " 171.94.        |
| Totals, " "      | 21,821,092:       | " \$872.84       |
| Annual Average,  | 5,455,273:        | \$ 218.21        |

This average Annual Charge, of \$218.21, corresponds, at 6 per cent., to a Capital sum of \$3,637; and, at 5 per cent., to \$4,364. - It is therefore decidedly to the pecuniary advantage of the United States to make the proposed Commutation.

I would therefore respectfully ask that an addition be made to the appropriations asked for the Mint, to the following effect:

For the purchase of the perpetual right, for the Mint & Branch Mints of the U. States, to the use of a patented apparatus for counting coins, invented by the late Rufus Tyler, - - - \$2500. -

May I ask that you will lay this application, for an addition to the appropriations for the Mint, before the Committee of Ways & Means?

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

Wm. John C. Spencer, }  
Secy of Treasury.



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Unit of the United States,  
Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1844

Sir,

In a letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> ult., you refer to me a letter addressed to yourself, from the Hon. J. Pratt, requesting an "official statement of the principal sources from which are received all uncoined metals that are coined at the Mint in Philadelphia; what portion comes from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and other places, for the last five years."

In an answer which I had the honor to write to you on the 29<sup>th</sup> ult., I requested that Mr. Pratt would let me know whether he meant to confine his inquiries to uncoined metal only; and whether, by the source from which the bullion was derived, he meant the original, the secondary, or the immediate source.

In a letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst., Mr. Pratt informs me that he meant his inquiries to extend to all the metals brought for coinage, and by the source of the bullion, I understand him to mean the residence of the depositor, or of the individual in whose name the deposit is made.

With these explanations it has been brought within our power to answer the inquiries; though it has been necessary, for this purpose, to examine the register of more than 5000 deposits. The result is presented in the subjoined tables.

The first presents the number and value of the deposits from the several places named during the whole period of five years.

The second table exhibits results for the separate



years; but as the deposits from Boston & Baltimore are comparatively of small amount, I have not judged it necessary to give them separate columns in the table.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

(1.)

Tabular Statement of the Number and value of Deposits made at the Mint at Philadelphia, during the five years ending Dec. 31, 1843, from the several places named.

| Places.                                    | Gold.   |           | Silver. |           | Total.  |            |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|------------|
|                                            | Number. | Dollars.  | Number. | Dollars.  | Number. | Dollars.   |
| Boston, and other places north of New York | 14      | 90,133    | 8       | 4,040     | 22      | 94,173     |
| New York,                                  | 585     | 2,330,606 | 328     | 1,015,619 | 913     | 3,346,225  |
| Philadelphia,                              | 1,801   | 4,570,438 | 1,577   | 5,944,330 | 3,378   | 10,514,768 |
| Baltimore,                                 | 93      | 372,229   | 70      | 242,248   | 163     | 614,477    |
| Other places south of Philadelphia         | 426     | 1,82,012  | 212     | 165,991   | 638     | 848,003    |
| Totals,                                    | 2,919   | 8,045,418 | 2,195   | 7,372,228 | 5,114   | 15,417,646 |



2.

Tabular Statement of the deposits at the Mint  
at Philadelphia, from Jan. 1, 1839 to Dec. 31, 1843 inclusive,  
exhibiting the amounts received from New York & places north  
of it, compared with those from Philadelphia & places south of it.

|                  | Years. | New York, & places<br>North of it. |              | Philadelphia, &<br>places South of it. |               |
|------------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|
|                  |        | Number                             | Value.       | Number                                 | Value.        |
| Silver Deposits: | 1839.  | 31                                 | \$ 180,563   | 288                                    | \$ 1,740,898  |
|                  | 1840.  | 64                                 | 215,004      | 443                                    | 818,066       |
|                  | 1841.  | 49                                 | 106,052      | 388                                    | 456,394       |
|                  | 1842.  | 103                                | 313,426      | 466                                    | 1,253,994     |
|                  | 1843.  | 89                                 | 274,613      | 474                                    | 2,083,217     |
| Total.           |        | 336                                | \$ 1,019,659 | 1,859                                  | \$ 6,352,569  |
| Gold Deposits:   | 1839.  | 38                                 | \$ 451,307   | 261                                    | \$ 591,220    |
|                  | 1840.  | 125                                | 570,458      | 414                                    | 631,542       |
|                  | 1841.  | 142                                | 229,214      | 406                                    | 485,959       |
|                  | 1842.  | 144                                | 323,540      | 592                                    | 654,371       |
|                  | 1843.  | 150                                | 846,220      | 647                                    | 3,261,587     |
| Total.           |        | 599                                | \$ 2,420,739 | 2,320                                  | \$ 5,624,679  |
| Silver and gold: | Total. | 935                                | \$ 3,440,398 | 4,179                                  | \$ 11,977,248 |



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Mint of the United States.

Jan 15, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith the monthly report, for December, of the operations of the Mint and its Branches. I hope to be able to send my annual report on Wednesday.

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To  
 Wm. C. Spencer,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



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Mint of the United States.  
January 18, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send to you herewith my report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the past year, the original of which is sent to the President by the same mail.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To/  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Received by the President,  
Jan. 15, 1844.



(Copy.)

Mint of the United States 130  
Philadelphia, January 18, 1844

Sir,

I have the honor to lay before you the following Report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches during the past year.

The coinage at the principal Mint, in 1843, amounted to \$6,530,043.20; comprising \$4,062,010 in gold, \$2,443,750 in silver, and \$24,283.20 in copper coins; and composed of 10,405,233 pieces. The deposits of gold, within the year, amounted to \$4,107,807, and those of silver to \$2,357,830.

At the New Orleans Branch Mint, the coinage amounted to \$4,568,000; comprising \$3,177,000 in gold, and \$1,391,000 in silver coins; and composed of \$4,030,239 pieces. The deposits for coinage amounted to \$3,138,990 in gold, and \$1,384,320 in silver.

The Branch Mint at Sakhonega received, during the year, deposits of gold to the value of \$570,080; and its coinage amounted to \$582,782.50, composed of 98,452 half-eagles, and 36,209 quarter-eagles.

The Branch Mint at Charlotte received deposits of gold to the value of \$272,064; and its coinage amounted to \$287,005, composed of 44,353 half-eagles, and 26,096 quarter-eagles.

The subjoined tables, (A, B, C, D,) embrace many details of interest respecting the operations



of the several Mints, and in particular exhibit the following facts, to which I beg leave to call your attention

The whole coinage in the United States during the past year, amounted to within a small fraction of twelve millions of dollars, and exceeds, by more than one-half, that of any former year.

Of this coinage, more than eight millions is in gold; showing a greater proportion to silver than has been heretofore presented.

The Branch Mints at Charlotte and Dallas, Texas have each coined nearly double the amount which they have reached in any former year, and the New Orleans Mint nearly quadrupled.

The production of the gold mines of the United States, as indicated by the amount sent to the Mints, exceeds that of any former years.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
with great respect,  
your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson  
(Director of the Mint)

To the President  
of the United States.



# STATEMENT of Deposits

and Coinage at the Mint of the United States and Branches in the month of Year 1892

## DEPOSITES.

| Mints.           | Gold.                         |                   |                   |                     |           | Silver.           |                     |                   |           | Total.              |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|
|                  | U. S. Coins.<br>Old Standard. | Foreign<br>Coins. | U. S.<br>Bullion. | Foreign<br>Bullion. | TOTAL.    | Foreign<br>Coins. | Foreign<br>Bullion. | U. S.<br>Bullion. | TOTAL.    | Gold and<br>Silver. |
|                  | Dollars.                      | Dollars.          | Dollars.          | Dollars.            | Dollars.  | Dollars.          | Dollars.            | Dollars.          | Dollars.  | Dollars.            |
| Charlotte, N. C. |                               |                   | 272,064           |                     | 272,064   |                   |                     |                   |           | 272,064             |
| Dahlongea, Geo.  |                               |                   | 570,080           |                     | 570,080   |                   |                     |                   |           | 570,080             |
| New Orleans,     | 1,257                         | 3,081,962         | 22,573            | 33,198              | 3,138,990 | 1,359,621         | 24,699              |                   | 1,384,320 | 4,523,310           |
| Philadelphia,    | 26,994                        | 3,548,632         | 180,728           | 357,453             | 4,107,807 | 2,101,198         | 247,992             | 8,640             | 2,357,830 | 6,465,637           |
|                  | 28,251                        | 6,630,594         | 1,045,445         | 384,651             | 8,088,941 | 3,460,819         | 272,691             | 8,640             | 3,742,150 | 11,831,091          |

## COINAGE.

| Mints.           | Gold.   |              |                 |              | Silver.  |               |                  |           |             |           | Copper.   |             |             | Total.     |            |      |
|------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------|
|                  | Eagles. | Half eagles. | Quarter eagles. | Value.       | Dollars. | Half dollars. | Quarter dollars. | Dimes.    | Half dimes. | Value.    | Cents.    | Half cents. | Value.      | Number.    | Value.     |      |
|                  | Pieces. | Pieces.      | Pieces.         | Dollars.     | Pieces.  | Pieces.       | Pieces.          | Pieces.   | Pieces.     | Dollars.  | Pieces.   | Pieces.     | Dolls. Cts. | Pieces.    | Dolls.     | Cts. |
| Charlotte, N. C. |         | 44,353       | 26,096          | 287,005      |          |               |                  |           |             |           |           |             |             | 70,409     | 287,005    | 00   |
| Dahlongea, Geo.  |         | 98,452       | 36,209          | 582,782½     |          |               |                  |           |             |           |           |             |             | 134,661    | 582,782    | 50   |
| New Orleans,     | 175,162 | 101,075      | 368,002         | 3,177,000    |          | 2,268,000     | 968,000          | 150,000   |             | 1,391,000 |           |             |             | 4,030,239  | 4,568,000  | 00   |
| Philadelphia,    | 75,452  | 611,205      | 100,546         | 4,062,010    | 165,100  | 3,844,000     | 645,600          | 1,370,000 | 1,165,000   | 2,443,750 | 2,428,320 |             | 24,383.20   | 10,405,233 | 6,550,043  | 20   |
|                  | 250,624 | 855,085      | 530,853         | 8,108,797.50 | 165,100  | 6,112,000     | 1,613,600        | 1,520,000 | 1,165,000   | 3,834,750 | 2,428,320 |             | 24,383.20   | 14,640,582 | 11,967,830 | 70   |

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**B.**

*Statement of the annual amounts of deposits of gold, for coinage, at the mint of the United States and its branches, from mints in the United States.*

| <i>Deposited at the United States mint</i> |                       |                       |                |                  |                |                        |                               | <i>Deposited at the branch mints</i> |                                    |                                |                               | <i>Mint &amp; branches</i>         |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Virginia</i>                            | <i>North Carolina</i> | <i>South Carolina</i> | <i>Georgia</i> | <i>Tennessee</i> | <i>Alabama</i> | <i>Various Sources</i> | <i>Total at the U.S. mint</i> | <i>Br. mint at Charlotte N.C.</i>    | <i>Br. mint at Dahlonega, Geo.</i> | <i>Br. mint at New Orleans</i> | <i>Total at the Br. mints</i> | <i>Total deposits of U.S. gold</i> |
| <i>Dollars</i>                             | <i>Dollars</i>        | <i>Dollars</i>        | <i>Dollars</i> | <i>Dollars</i>   | <i>Dollars</i> | <i>Dollars</i>         | <i>Dollars</i>                | <i>Dollars</i>                       | <i>Dollars</i>                     | <i>Dollars</i>                 | <i>Dollars</i>                | <i>Dollars</i>                     |
|                                            | 5,000                 |                       |                |                  |                |                        | 5,000                         |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 5,000                              |
|                                            | 17,000                |                       |                |                  |                |                        | 17,000                        |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 17,000                             |
|                                            | 20,000                |                       |                |                  |                |                        | 20,000                        |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 20,000                             |
|                                            | 21,000                |                       |                |                  |                |                        | 21,000                        |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 21,000                             |
|                                            | 46,000                |                       |                |                  |                |                        | 46,000                        |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 46,000                             |
| 13,500                                     | 134,000               | 3,500                 | 212,000        |                  |                |                        | 140,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 140,000                            |
| 2,000                                      | 204,000               | 26,000                | 212,000        |                  |                |                        | 466,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 466,000                            |
| 31,000                                     | 294,000               | 22,000                | 176,000        | 1,000            |                | 1,000                  | 520,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 520,000                            |
| 32,000                                     | 458,000               | 45,000                | 140,000        | 1,000            |                |                        | 678,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 678,000                            |
| 32,000                                     | 475,000               | 66,000                | 216,000        | 7,000            |                |                        | 868,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 868,000                            |
| 31,000                                     | 380,000               | 38,000                | 415,000        | 3,000            |                |                        | 898,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 898,000                            |
| 11,400                                     | 263,500               | 42,400                | 319,900        | 100              |                | 12,200                 | 698,500                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 698,500                            |
| 31,100                                     | 148,100               | 55,200                | 201,400        | 300              |                |                        | 467,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 467,000                            |
| 32,100                                     | 116,900               | 29,400                | 83,600         |                  |                |                        | 282,000                       |                                      |                                    |                                |                               | 282,000                            |
| 33,000                                     | 66,000                | 13,000                | 36,000         | 1,500            |                | 200                    | 171,700                       | 127,000                              | 135,700                            | 700                            | 263,400                       | 435,100                            |
| 33,000                                     | 53,500                | 6,300                 | 20,300         | 300              | 500            |                        | 138,500                       | 126,836                              | 113,035                            | 6,869                          | 246,740                       | 385,240                            |
| 33,995                                     | 36,804                | 5,319                 | 91,113         | 104              | 44,431         |                        | 176,766                       | 124,726                              | 121,858                            | 2,835                          | 249,419                       | 426,185                            |
| 33,736                                     | 76,431                | 3,440                 | 139,796        | 1,212            | 18,63          |                        | 248,478                       | 129,847                              | 161,974                            | 1,818                          | 293,639                       | 542,117                            |
| 34,163                                     | 61,629                | 223                   | 150,276        |                  | 5579           | 13717                  | 273,587                       | 174,508                              | 323,372                            | 5,630                          | 503,510                       | 777,097                            |
| 34,148                                     | 62,873                | 5099                  | 56,619         | 2,788            | 4786           | 415                    | 180,728                       | 272,064                              | 570,080                            | 22,573                         | 864,717                       | 1,045,445                          |
| 44,42                                      | 29,3737               | 360,881               | 2,258,004      | 18,307           | 17,159         | 27,532                 | 63,16259                      | 957,4981                             | 1,426,019                          | 40,425                         | 2,421,425                     | 8737,684                           |



Statement of the Account - Received Annually at the Branch Mint, from the commencement of their operation until December 31, 1843.

(C)

| Gold.           |                 | Silver.         |                 | Total.          |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Half - Quarter. | Half - Quarter. | Half - Quarter. | Half - Quarter. | Half - Quarter. | Half - Quarter. |
| 1838            | 12,886          | 1,894           | 20,780          | 81,165          | 20,780          |
| 1839            | 23,467          | 18,173          | 41,640          | 162,767         | 41,640          |
| 1840            | 18,994          | 12,834          | 31,828          | 31,828          | 127,655         |
| 1841            | 21,467          | 10,281          | 31,748          | 133,038         | 31,748          |
| 1842            | 27,180          | 8,612           | 36,122          | 159,605         | 36,122          |
| 1843            | 144,353         | 26,096          | 70,149          | 287,605         | 70,149          |
| 1844            | 148,647         | 83,920          | 232,567         | 953,035         | 232,567         |
| 1845            | 20,583          | "               | 26,583          | 102,915         | 20,583          |
| 1846            | 18,939          | 13,674          | 32,613          | 128,880         | 32,613          |
| 1847            | 22,896          | 3,532           | 26,428          | 123,310         | 26,428          |
| 1848            | 30,495          | 11,164          | 34,659          | 162,885         | 34,659          |
| 1849            | 59,608          | 44,643          | 64,251          | 309,648         | 64,251          |
| 1850            | 98,452          | 36,209          | 134,661         | 582,782         | 134,661         |
| 1851            | 250,973         | 62,222          | 313,195         | 1,410,420       | 313,195         |
| 1852            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1853            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1854            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1855            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1856            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1857            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1858            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1859            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1860            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1861            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1862            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1863            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1864            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1865            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1866            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1867            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1868            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1869            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1870            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1871            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1872            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1873            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1874            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1875            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1876            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1877            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1878            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1879            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1880            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1881            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1882            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1883            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1884            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1885            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1886            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1887            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1888            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1889            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1890            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1891            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1892            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1893            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1894            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1895            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1896            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1897            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1898            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1899            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1900            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1901            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1902            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1903            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1904            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1905            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1906            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1907            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1908            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1909            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1910            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1911            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1912            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1913            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1914            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1915            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1916            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1917            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1918            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1919            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1920            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1921            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1922            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1923            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1924            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1925            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1926            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1927            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1928            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1929            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1930            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1931            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1932            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1933            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1934            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1935            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1936            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1937            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1938            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1939            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1940            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1941            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1942            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1943            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1944            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1945            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1946            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1947            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1948            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1949            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1950            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1951            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1952            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1953            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1954            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1955            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1956            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1957            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1958            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1959            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1960            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1961            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1962            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1963            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1964            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1965            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1966            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1967            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1968            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1969            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1970            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1971            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1972            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1973            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1974            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1975            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1976            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1977            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1978            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1979            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1980            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1981            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1982            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1983            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1984            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1985            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1986            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1987            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1988            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1989            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1990            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1991            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1992            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1993            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1994            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1995            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1996            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1997            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1998            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 1999            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2000            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2001            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2002            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2003            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2004            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2005            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2006            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2007            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2008            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2009            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2010            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2011            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2012            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2013            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2014            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2015            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2016            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2017            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2018            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2019            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2020            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2021            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2022            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2023            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2024            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2025            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2026            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2027            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2028            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2029            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2030            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2031            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2032            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2033            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2034            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2035            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2036            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2037            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2038            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2039            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2040            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2041            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2042            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2043            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2044            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2045            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2046            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2047            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2048            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2049            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2050            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2051            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2052            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2053            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2054            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2055            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2056            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2057            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2058            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2059            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2060            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2061            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2062            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2063            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2064            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2065            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2066            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2067            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2068            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2069            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2070            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2071            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2072            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2073            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2074            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2075            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2076            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2077            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2078            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2079            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2080            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2081            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2082            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2083            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2084            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2085            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2086            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2087            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2088            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2089            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2090            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2091            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2092            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2093            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2094            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2095            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2096            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2097            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2098            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2099            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2100            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2101            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2102            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2103            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2104            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2105            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2106            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2107            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2108            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2109            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2110            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2111            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2112            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2113            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2114            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2115            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2116            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2117            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2118            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2119            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2120            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2121            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2122            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2123            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2124            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2125            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2126            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2127            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2128            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
| 2129            | "               | "               | "               | "               | "               |
|                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |



(C)

Statement of the Amounts Coined Annually, at the Branch Mints, from the Commencement of their operations until December 31, 1843.

| Periods. | Gold.   |              |                 |                |           |           | Silver        |                  |           |             |                  |            | Total.         |            |
|----------|---------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|------------|----------------|------------|
|          | Eagles. | Half-Eagles. | Quarter-Eagles. | Total of Gold. |           | Number.   | Half-Dollars. | Quarter-Dollars. | Dimes.    | Half-Dimes. | Total of Silver. |            | Whole Coinage. |            |
|          | Pieces. | Pieces.      | Pieces.         | Pieces.        | Dollars.  |           | Pieces.       | Pieces.          | Pieces.   | Pieces.     | Pieces.          | Dollars.   | Pieces.        | Dollars.   |
| 1838     | "       | 12,886       | 7,894           | 20,780         | 84,165    | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 20,780         | 84,165     |
| 1839     | "       | 23,467       | 18,173          | 41,640         | 162,767   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 41,640         | 162,767    |
| 1840     | "       | 18,994       | 12,834          | 31,828         | 127,055   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 31,828         | 127,055    |
| 1841     | "       | 21,467       | 10,281          | 31,748         | 133,038   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 31,748         | 133,038    |
| 1842     | "       | 27,480       | 8,642           | 36,122         | 159,005   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 36,122         | 159,005    |
| 1843     | "       | 114,353      | 26,096          | 70,449         | 287,005   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 70,449         | 287,005    |
| Total,   | "       | 148,647      | 83,920          | 232,567        | 953,035   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 232,567        | 953,035    |
| 1838     | "       | 20,583       | "               | 20,583         | 102,915   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 20,583         | 102,915    |
| 1839     | "       | 18,939       | 13,674          | 32,613         | 128,880   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 32,613         | 128,880    |
| 1840     | "       | 22,896       | 3,532           | 26,428         | 123,310   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 26,428         | 123,310    |
| 1841     | "       | 31,495       | 4,164           | 34,659         | 162,885   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 34,659         | 162,885    |
| 1842     | "       | 59,608       | 4,643           | 64,251         | 309,648   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 64,251         | 309,648    |
| 1843     | "       | 98,452       | 36,209          | 134,661        | 582,782   | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 134,661        | 582,782    |
| Total,   | "       | 250,973      | 62,222          | 313,195        | 1,410,420 | "         | "             | "                | "         | "           | "                | "          | 313,195        | 1,410,420  |
| 1838     | "       | "            | "               | "              | "         | "         | "             | 402,430          | "         | 402,430     | 402,430          | 402,430    | 402,430        | 402,430    |
| 1839     | "       | "            | 9,396           | 9,396          | 23,490    | 116,000   | "             | 1,291,600        | 1,060,000 | 2,467,600   | 2,467,600        | 2,467,600  | 2,467,600      | 2,467,600  |
| 1840     | "       | 30,400       | 26,200          | 56,600         | 217,500   | 855,100   | 425,200       | 1,175,000        | 935,000   | 3,390,300   | 698,100          | 3,446,900  | 915,600        | 3,446,900  |
| 1841     | 2,520   | 8,350        | 7,380           | 18,230         | 85,200    | 410,000   | 452,000       | 2,007,500        | 815,000   | 3,675,500   | 555,000          | 3,693,730  | 640,200        | 3,693,730  |
| 1842     | 27,400  | 16,400       | 19,800          | 63,600         | 405,500   | 957,000   | 769,000       | 2,020,000        | 350,000   | 4,096,000   | 890,250          | 4,159,600  | 1,295,750      | 4,159,600  |
| 1843     | 175,162 | 101,075      | 368,002         | 644,239        | 3,177,000 | 2,268,000 | 968,000       | 150,000          | "         | 3,386,000   | 1,391,000        | 4,039,239  | 4,568,000      | 4,039,239  |
| Total,   | 205,062 | 156,225      | 430,778         | 792,065        | 3,908,690 | 4,597,100 | 2,614,200     | 7,046,530        | 3,160,000 | 17,417,830  | 3,814,753        | 18,209,095 | 7,723,443      | 18,209,095 |



(D)

| Periods. | Gold          |      | Silver        |      | Copper  |      | WHOLE COINAGE. |                |      | Periods. |
|----------|---------------|------|---------------|------|---------|------|----------------|----------------|------|----------|
|          | Value.        |      | Value.        |      | Value.  |      | Number.        | Value.         |      |          |
|          | Dolls.        | Cts. | Dolls.        | Cts. | Dolls.  | Cts. | Pieces.        | Dolls.         | Cts. |          |
| 1793     |               |      |               |      |         |      |                |                |      | 1793     |
| 1794     | 71,485        | 00   | 370,683       | 80   | 11,373  | 00   | 1,834,420      | 453,541        | 80   | 1794     |
| 1795     |               |      |               |      |         |      |                |                |      | 1795     |
| 1796     | 102,727       | 50   | 79,077        | 50   | 10,324  | 40   | 1,219,370      | 192,129        | 40   | 1796     |
| 1797     | 103,422       | 50   | 12,591        | 45   | 9,510   | 34   | 1,095,165      | 125,524        | 29   | 1797     |
| 1798     | 205,610       | 00   | 330,291       | 00   | 9,797   | 00   | 1,368,241      | 545,698        | 00   | 1798     |
| 1799     | 213,285       | 00   | 423,515       | 00   | 9,106   | 68   | 1,365,681      | 645,906        | 68   | 1799     |
| 1800     | 817,760       | 00   | 224,296       | 00   | 29,279  | 40   | 3,337,972      | 571,335        | 40   | 1800     |
| 1801     | 422,570       | 00   | 74,758        | 00   | 13,628  | 37   | 1,571,390      | 510,956        | 37   | 1801     |
| 1802     | 423,310       | 00   | 58,343        | 00   | 34,422  | 83   | 3,615,869      | 516,075        | 83   | 1802     |
| 1803     | 258,377       | 50   | 87,118        | 00   | 25,203  | 03   | 2,780,830      | 370,698        | 53   | 1803     |
| 1804     | 258,642       | 50   | 100,340       | 50   | 12,844  | 94   | 2,046,839      | 371,827        | 94   | 1804     |
| 1805     | 170,367       | 50   | 149,388       | 50   | 13,483  | 48   | 2,260,361      | 333,239        | 48   | 1805     |
| 1806     | 324,505       | 00   | 471,319       | 00   | 5,260   | 00   | 1,815,409      | 801,084        | 00   | 1806     |
| 1807     | 437,495       | 00   | 597,448       | 75   | 9,652   | 21   | 2,731,345      | 1,044,595      | 96   | 1807     |
| 1808     | 284,665       | 00   | 684,300       | 00   | 13,090  | 00   | 2,935,888      | 982,055        | 00   | 1808     |
| 1809     | 169,375       | 00   | 707,376       | 00   | 8,001   | 53   | 2,861,834      | 884,752        | 53   | 1809     |
| 1810     | 501,435       | 00   | 638,773       | 50   | 15,660  | 00   | 3,056,418      | 1,155,868      | 50   | 1810     |
| 1811     | 497,905       | 00   | 608,340       | 00   | 2,495   | 95   | 1,649,570      | 1,108,740      | 95   | 1811     |
| 1812     | 290,435       | 00   | 814,029       | 50   | 10,755  | 00   | 2,761,646      | 1,115,219      | 50   | 1812     |
| 1813     | 477,140       | 00   | 620,951       | 50   | 4,180   | 00   | 1,755,331      | 1,102,271      | 50   | 1813     |
| 1814     | 77,270        | 00   | 561,687       | 50   | 3,578   | 30   | 1,833,859      | 642,535        | 80   | 1814     |
| 1815     | 3,175         | 00   | 17,308        | 00   | -       |      | 69,867         | 20,483         | 00   | 1815     |
| 1816     | -             |      | 28,575        | 75   | 28,209  | 82   | 2,888,135      | 56,785         | 57   | 1816     |
| 1817     | -             |      | 607,783       | 50   | 39,484  | 00   | 5,163,967      | 647,267        | 50   | 1817     |
| 1818     | 242,940       | 00   | 1,070,454     | 50   | 31,670  | 00   | 5,537,084      | 1,345,064      | 50   | 1818     |
| 1819     | 258,615       | 00   | 1,140,000     | 00   | 26,710  | 00   | 5,074,723      | 1,425,325      | 00   | 1819     |
| 1820     | 1,319,030     | 00   | 501,680       | 70   | 44,075  | 50   | 6,492,509      | 1,864,786      | 20   | 1820     |
| 1821     | 189,325       | 00   | 825,762       | 45   | 3,890   | 00   | 3,139,249      | 1,018,977      | 45   | 1821     |
| 1822     | 88,980        | 00   | 805,806       | 50   | 20,723  | 39   | 3,813,788      | 915,509        | 89   | 1822     |
| 1823     | 72,425        | 00   | 895,550       | 00   | -       |      | 2,166,485      | 967,975        | 00   | 1823     |
| 1824     | 93,200        | 00   | 1,752,477     | 00   | 12,620  | 00   | 4,786,894      | 1,858,297      | 00   | 1824     |
| 1825     | 156,385       | 00   | 1,564,583     | 00   | 14,926  | 00   | 5,178,760      | 1,735,894      | 00   | 1825     |
| 1826     | 92,245        | 00   | 2,002,090     | 00   | 16,344  | 25   | 5,774,434      | 2,110,679      | 25   | 1826     |
| 1827     | 131,565       | 00   | 2,869,200     | 00   | 23,577  | 32   | 9,097,845      | 3,024,342      | 32   | 1827     |
| 1828     | 140,145       | 00   | 1,575,600     | 00   | 25,636  | 24   | 6,196,853      | 1,741,381      | 24   | 1828     |
| 1829     | 295,717       | 50   | 1,994,578     | 00   | 16,580  | 00   | 7,674,501      | 2,306,875      | 50   | 1829     |
| 1830     | 643,105       | 00   | 2,495,400     | 00   | 17,115  | 00   | 8,357,191      | 3,155,620      | 00   | 1830     |
| 1831     | 714,270       | 00   | 3,175,600     | 00   | 33,603  | 60   | 11,792,284     | 3,923,473      | 60   | 1831     |
| 1832     | 798,435       | 00   | 2,579,000     | 00   | 23,620  | 00   | 9,128,387      | 3,401,055      | 00   | 1832     |
| 1833     | 978,550       | 00   | 2,759,000     | 00   | 28,160  | 00   | 10,307,790     | 3,765,710      | 00   | 1833     |
| 1834     | 3,954,270     | 00   | 3,415,002     | 00   | 19,151  | 00   | 11,637,643     | 7,388,423      | 00   | 1834     |
| 1835     | 2,186,175     | 00   | 3,443,003     | 00   | 39,489  | 00   | 15,996,342     | 5,668,667      | 00   | 1835     |
| 1836     | 4,135,700     | 00   | 3,606,100     | 00   | 23,100  | 00   | 13,719,333     | 7,764,900      | 00   | 1836     |
| 1837     | 1,148,305     | 00   | 2,096,010     | 00   | 55,583  | 00   | 13,010,721     | 3,299,898      | 00   | 1837     |
| 1838     | 1,809,695.00  |      | 2,333,243.00  |      | 63,702  | 00   | 15,780,311     | 4,206,540.00   |      | 1838     |
| 1839     | 1,355,885.00  |      | 2,189,296.00  |      | 31,286  | 61   | 11,811,594     | 3,576,467.61   |      | 1839     |
| 1840     | 1,675,302.50  |      | 1,726,703.00  |      | 24,627  | 00   | 10,558,240     | 3,426,632.50   |      | 1840     |
| 1841     | 1,091,597.50  |      | 1,132,750.00  |      | 15,973  | 67   | 8,811,968      | 2,240,321.17   |      | 1841     |
| 1842     | 1,834,170.50  |      | 2,332,750.00  |      | 23,833  | 90   | 11,742,153     | 4,190,754.40   |      | 1842     |
| 1843     | 2,108,797.50  |      | 3,834,750.00  |      | 24,283  | 20   | 14,640,582     | 11,967,830.70  |      | 1843     |
|          | 39,125,668.00 |      | 62,384,684.90 |      | 979,620 | 96   | 284,248,071    | 102,489,993.86 |      |          |



Mint of the United States.

Jan. 22, 1844.

Sir,

I have been called upon to present my views to the Committee of Ways and Means, as to the propriety of introducing the coinage of gold-dollar pieces, and I have done so, in a letter sent to the Chairman by yesterday's mail.

As one of the elements on which they are to form their judgment, I have candidly shown pieces to be struck, from dies prepared for a similar occasion, in 1826. It is right that the Head of the Treasury Department should also be furnished with one of these specimens, and I therefore send you the enclosed piece. Its weight is 25.8 grains; its volume but little more than  $\frac{2}{3}$  of that of the half-dime, - the smallest of our coins.



The opinion to which my reflections  
and inquiries have led me is adverse  
to the proposed innovation in our coinage.  
If it should be ordered, however, the piece  
sent to you is not offered as a model  
to be followed. The obverse should be  
the head of Liberty, like our other gold  
coins. In the reverse, however, I think the  
figure of the eagle should be omitted,  
as in the dime and half-dime.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson.

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mr. 34  
 May 29/44  
 Mr. 34

With a specimen of a  
Pinus strobus (Pine Cone),  
 Jan. 29, 1844.

---

Admirably  
 well done for an amateur  
 of the extensive one,  
 the specimen of wood in  
 such shape and very  
 clear the pine cone  
 a Pine in relation to the  
 shape and development  
 are well shown and well  
 prepared.



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Mint of the United States,  
January 22, 1844.

Sir,

As the annual assay at the Mint is to be made on the 12th of next month, I have the honor respectfully to request that you will ask the attention of the President to the appointment of the additional Commissioners provided for by the 32d Section of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Mr. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Sir,  
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to me,  
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Mr. Pratt  
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17. Mr. Atkinson,  
Director U.S. Mint,  
Phil. Jan. 22. 1894.

Regarding the appointments  
by the President of the act.  
District Commissioner re-  
quired in the District of the  
Act of Jan. 18. 1897, for the  
Annual Meeting at the Mint  
Feb. 12. 1894.

Upon this due to Assistant  
Commissioner Edward C. Cress  
James C. Russell Esq and  
Suffer Remond of Columbia  
College St. Y. Commence the  
J. A. S.

Shall the letters of appointment be  
sent from this Department as heretofore  
or will they go from the President  
from the Department  
and the Commission should any day  
Report submitted  
and the Commission should any day



107

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 29. 1844.

Sir, I received this morning the letter addressed to you by the Hon. L. Pratt, and referred by you to me, requesting an "official statement of the principal sources from which are received all uncoined metals that are coined at the Mint in Philadelphia; what portion comes from New-York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other places, for the last five years."

I greatly fear that a satisfactory answer to Mr. Pratt's inquiry cannot be furnished; and I cannot even make the attempt without asking some preliminary explanations.

I would first wish to know whether Mr. Pratt really designs to limit his inquiry to "uncoined metals." If this be the case, our statement would extend only to pigs, bars, plate, grains, dust, &c., from North and South America, Africa, and Europe. But these form but a small proportion of our material, which consists principally of coined metal, - that is of foreign coins.

Again, I wish to know whether, in inquiring after the source from which our deposits are derived, he means the original, the mediate, or the immediate source. For example, Our Register gives the name of the depositor, in one column; of the original source of the metal, in another; the value in another; &c. Now suppose that the



depositor resides in Philadelphia, but that the bullion has come to him from the Mines of Georgia, as is very often the case; in what category is such an item to be placed? Or suppose a still more involved, but very frequent case; - that the bullion originates in Georgia, is sold to a house in New York, and is deposited by an individual in Philadelphia, who has a commercial connection with the owner, but whose name <sup>alone</sup> appears in our books. Now is such a case to be reported?

Let me give you an example of the way in which these transactions are often involved. The President of a Bank in Pittsburg brought lately, to this City, 290,000 Mexican dollars. The first source, of course, was Mexico; the next, probably, New Orleans; but the ownership was in Pittsburg. Desirous of taking home gold for his silver, he did not deposit the dollars at the Mint, but negotiated them in New York for sovereigns. Eventually, both the sovereigns and the dollars came to the Mint to be received. Now from what source should these two funds date?

I may say that, in general, the deposits appear to come, almost entirely, through New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore; and chiefly the first two. But how far the depositors in these places are mere agents of more distant owners, cannot be determined from our records.



We are also without the means of ascertaining the residences of the individuals who receive the proceeds of deposits, and are very frequently different from those who make them, and residents of a different place.

More specific inquiries from Mr. Pratt may I hope enable me to procure such information for him as will answer the purpose he has in view, and I need not assure you of my perfect readiness to do so.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

(Director)

To,

Hon. Jas. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

I return Mr. Pratt's letter, of which I have procured a copy.



138

Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 31, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst., asking me to communicate to you "any views which may have occurred to me in relation to the subject of the proposed coinage of one-dollar gold pieces"; and I now proceed to comply with your request, by presenting the following remarks.

In favor of the introduction of the gold-dollar, I know of but one valid reason; namely, that being sixteen times lighter than the silver dollar, it will be less cumbersome. The value of this advantage is readily estimated, and a judgment may therefore be formed whether it is such as to outweigh the disadvantages which would be presented by the new coinage.

One of the most obvious of these arises from the fact that the size of the gold-dollar is too diminutive. Gold being more valuable than silver in the proportion of 16 to 1, and heavier in the proportion of 27 to 16, the volumes of corresponding values of these metals will be as 1 to 27. Hence the dollar of gold will be but  $\frac{1}{27}$ th of the size of the dollar of silver, or will be nearly one third less than the half-dime, - the smallest piece of our



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present coinage. Such a coin would be very liable to be lost; and having a greater surface than any other in proportion to its volume, would be more reduced by wear, which is a cause of great waste in all metallic currencies, and particularly in so precious a metal as gold.

The specific gravity of gold is so high, that the great weight of a coin of that metal, in proportion to its size, can be appreciated by the hand, and thus distinguished from its counterfeit imitation, when both are sufficiently large; but this important test is by no means so availing in very small pieces. It is to be apprehended, therefore, that the gold dollar would be more liable to be counterfeited than the larger coins of the same metal.

If the gold dollar be introduced, it must of course be as a substitute for the same amount of silver. It becomes a question of importance, therefore, whether the proportions of these two metals in the country are such as to allow of this substitution. Now the best evidence that we can resort to, in this inquiry, is presented by the relative quantities which have been coined in the United States, and these are \$39,125,688 of gold, and \$62,384,685 of silver. It appears, therefore, that the amount of silver, in value, is nearly double that of gold.



Is the gold dollar needed? It has already<sup>3</sup>  
its representative in silver; and certainly any  
sum less than the quarter-eagle can be car-  
ried in silver without inconvenience. It would  
seem to be desirable, that, in our metallic  
currency, as in England, the larger sums should  
be paid in gold, and the smaller ones in silver.  
Yet, in point of fact, silver coins are used  
even for the largest payments; and it is not  
likely, therefore, that gold could be intro-  
duced for the small amounts, where its  
less weight is by no means so important.

The experience of the Mint shows that  
the small gold coins are not so much de-  
sired by the community as those of a lar-  
ger size. Of the 29 millions of gold coinage,  
but little more than 4 millions was in quarter-  
eagles. Instructions have been given, at differ-  
ent times, from the Treasury Department, to  
increase the coinage of quarter-eagles as far  
as this could be done consistently with the  
law which requires that, "in the denom-  
inations of coins delivered, the wishes of the  
depositor shall be complied with, unless when  
impracticable or inconvenient to do so." Still  
the proportion of this coinage has remained small,  
because the depositors generally required their  
returns in eagles and half-eagles.



4/ In considering the expediency of the proposed innovation in our coinage, it is natural to look to the present practice of those countries which issue the largest amounts of gold. At the head is England; and its smallest gold coin is the half-sovereign, worth \$2.442 in our money. In France, the smallest gold coin is the 20-franc piece, worth \$2.89. Russia, which is a gold-producing country, has no coin of this metal less than the three-ruble piece, worth \$2.39. The ducat, coined in Austria, Southern Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden, is worth about \$2.25; the five-guilder piece of the Netherlands, \$2.00; and the 10-lire piece of Sardinia, \$1.92. - In Spanish America, the favorite gold coin is the doubloon, worth about \$15.50 though the quarter, and even the eighth, are not uncommon. It appears then that, in those countries whose example many commend <sup>our</sup> respect, the minimum for gold coins is not very different from our own. Exceptions are presented, however, by Spain, and to a slight extent by Colombia, where sixteenths of the doubloon, or gold-dollar, are in use. In Spain, these pieces are placed on a par with the silver-dollars as a legal tender, though, even when of full weight, and using our own high valuation of gold, they are worth but about 97 cents. They are accordingly still kept in circulation, though no gold piece of this denomination has been coined in Spain for more than twenty years.



It is worthy of particular note, that the  
 issuing of small gold coins, after being intro-  
 duced in several countries, has been aban-  
 doned by them. The experiment was twice tried  
 in Great Britain. In 1762, the quarter-guinea,  
 worth \$1.27 was introduced; but it was found  
 so inconvenient, that orders were given to collect  
 the pieces, as they came into the Bank, to be  
 melted down; and now very few specimens remain.  
 Another trial was of the one-third guinea, or  
 seven-shilling piece, (\$1.69,) which was issued  
 in 1806. It was discontinued upon the enact-  
 ment of the new coinage law of 1816, which  
 provides for no gold coin less than the half-  
 sovereign. — Russia formerly issued roubles,  
 (75 cents,) and even half-roubles, (37½ cents,) in  
 gold; but for many years there has been  
 no gold coin used in that country less than  
 the three-rouble piece. In Portugal, gold-  
 dollar pieces were formerly in general circula-  
 tion, but it was found expedient by the  
 government to call them in, and the smallest  
 piece now coined is the ~~half~~ gold <sup>half-</sup> crown,  
 worth \$2.90.

The question of a gold-dollar coinage was  
 agitated in Congress in the Session of 1835-6,  
 and reported upon by a Special Committee; but  
 its introduction was not then deemed expedient.



6/ In answer to your inquiry respecting "the additional cost, and the proportion of waste in such small coins", I have to state that additions would be required to our machinery, but only such as could be made by our own workmen; that there would be an increase of labor, especially in the adjusting of the planchets, which is a very tedious and expensive part of the process of gold coinage; and that there would also be some increase in the wastage, the amount of which however, I have not the means of estimating. But, on the whole, the expense of the proposed coinage would not be such as to be considered among the serious objections to its introduction.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson

(Director)

To/

Am. John C. Spencer,

Secretary of the Treasury.



139

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 31, 1844.

Sir,

On the 24th inst., I received a letter from the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch Mint, dated the 11th, in which he mentions that he had sent, by the same mail, through the Secretary of the Treasury, a 1st package of assay coins, and that a 2d and 3d would follow immediately.

On the 26th, I received from you the 2d of these packages, but neither the 1st nor the 3d have yet come to hand. This circumstance gives me much uneasiness, particularly with regard to the 1st box, and I have thought it my duty to make it known to you.

I have written to Mr. Kennedy on the subject.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

For  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Sec. of Treasury.



140

Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 1st, 1844.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt, this morning, of a box of assay-coins, sent, through your Department, from the New Orleans Branch Mint, and which is the Package No. 1, which I mentioned as missing, in a letter which I had the honor of addressing to you yesterday.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

A. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Received of the  
Director of the  
Mint  
Jan 31, 1844.



141

Mr. Wm. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury,

Si

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your  
letter February 1<sup>st</sup> informing me that  
you had been authorized by the President  
to appoint me one of the Commissioners  
to carry into effect the 32<sup>d</sup> Section of the  
Act Supplementary to an Act establishing  
a mint & regulating Coins of the United  
States -

With you have the kindness to present  
my thanks to the President for this  
appointment - and notify him of  
my acceptance of it -

Very respectfully

J. Y. Merrick

Placed 3 Feb 1844



142

Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 3d, 1844.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt, this day, of Box No. 3 of Assay-coins from the New Orleans Branch Mint, and of Box No. 2 of Assay-coins from the Charlotte Branch Mint. These complete all the remittances of Coins announced, and all that are required for the Annual Assay.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



143

Min't of the United States.  
Feb. 3d, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter of the 1st inst.

The appointment of Prof. Remick, of  
Columbia College, as one of the special Com-  
missioners to attend at our annual ass'ly, is  
not only satisfactory, but very gratifying  
to me. I have not failed to see the propriety  
of having at least one of our Commissioners  
from Philadelphia, and last year, Prof.  
Torrey, (also of Columbia College,) was named  
by me and attended. But I have felt some  
reluctancy in inviting gentlemen from abroad,  
because no provision has hitherto been  
made for paying their expenses. Let me, there-  
fore, take this opportunity of asking that you will  
sanction the payment of the actual expenses  
of travelling, and of the stay here, out of our  
contingent fund. The necessary detention here  
is but for a single day, and the whole charge  
must be very trifling.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson.

Thos. M. Spencer, Jr.  
Secretary of the Treasury.

(Feb. 3, 1844)



144

Columbia College New York  
4<sup>th</sup> February 1844

Sir,

I have the honour to communicate to you my acceptance  
of the appointment of Commissioner for the purpose of carrying into effect  
the 52<sup>d</sup> section of the Act supplementary to an act establishing a Mint &c,  
which I am advised in your letter of 1<sup>st</sup> Inst.

I am Sir

with much respect

The Hon J C Spencer

Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington

Yr most Obedt Servt

Jas Danville



148

Philadelphia Feb: 4. 1844

Dear Sir -

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, notifying me of my having been selected a Commissioner to carry into effect the 32<sup>d</sup> Section of the Act supplementary to an act establishing a Mint and regulating the Coins of the United States, approved January 18<sup>th</sup> 1837.

I beg leave to express, and through you to make known to the President, my gratification at this proof of his kind recollection of me, and to say I will with pleasure attend to the duty assigned me.

I am very respectfully

Edward Coles

J. C. Spencer esq:

Secretary of the Treasury  
of the United States



146

Minst of the United States,  
Feb. 10, 1844.

Sir,

I received, on the 7th inst., your letter of the 3d, enclosing two communications from Charles Aug. Davis, Esq., respecting the increased production of gold in Russia, and its influence upon the relations of value between that metal and silver. On this subject you ask me to communicate any information that I may possess.

In a letter from A. P. Gibson, Esq., U.S. Consul at St. Petersburg, written in 1839, in answer to one which I had addressed to him, he gives a statement of the product of gold from the Russian mines, principally in the Ural Mountains, for ten years ending in 1838. It amounted to 3,753 pounds, 14 pounds; and, estimating the pound at 526.042 oz. Troy, corresponds to an average annual production of 197,441.974 oz.; which, if of the fineness of our coin, would be equal in value to \$3,673,339.

By an extract of a letter from an officer of the Russian Mines to Baron Humboldt, published in the *Annales des Mines*, (1843,) and translated for the last number of Silliman's Journal, it appears, that in consequence of the mines of the Southern Ural beginning to be exhausted, it became necessary to make explorations near the course of the river Tschkon-Targanka, which soon led to the discovery of gold-bearing sands of very great richness, but within narrow limits. This bed once found, the water of the stream which had served for washing the sand was turned off along its whole length



and examinations were commenced in the dry bed of the river. The success was complete. A stratum of sand was found, of considerable extent, which yielded gold at the rate of 26 dwts. per Cwt.; a very great proportion where sands giving 5 dwts. per Cwt. had been considered well worth exploring. Other beds were afterwards discovered of still greater capacity, reaching, in some instances, as high as 162 or even 227 dwts. per Cwt. On the 26th of October, 1842, there was found the largest lump of gold ever met with in the world. It weighed 1162 oz., and was worth about 22,000 dollars.

These new sources have certainly served to increase very greatly, the product of gold in Russia. According to a statement of Baron Humboldt, made on the authority of Count Cancrini, it appears that the Russia mines yielded, in 1842, 970 pounds, or 510,261 oz. of gold; of which the value may be estimated at \$9,493,000.

I have no more recent information on this subject, except what is given by your correspondent Mr. Davis, on the authority of Mr. Horsely Palmer, who states that the product of the Russian mines, in 1843, exceeded four millions of pounds sterling in value which is more than double the amount yielded in 1842.

Such a production of gold, in addition to that from other sources, would, if continued, reduce the value of that metal relatively to silver, and would therefore have an effect on the metallic currency requiring a change in the laws which regulate it.



Has any such effect yet been produced, and has it yet appeared that our valuation of gold, in terms of silver, is too high? I think not.

I have made particular inquiries, & learn, that American gold coins are now selling at a premium. A broker in this city, who deals largely in bullion exchanges, told me that he had himself recently given one tenth per cent. for \$200,000 worth of American gold. The usual charge is one eighth per cent.

Mr. Davis is apprehensive that silver will be driven out of circulation. I have made inquiry of the officers of some of our banks, and learn that their silver greatly exceeds their gold in amount. The Bank here which is believed to have the greatest proportion of gold, has not one-third of its specie funds in this metal.

You inform me that you have made inquiry, at the proper sources, as to the exportation of silver. I will not therefore enter upon this subject, except to present one view of it which is derived from the Mint records. - It is well known that when silver is to be exported, foreign coins are always the first selected. If then the exportation of silver greatly exceeded its importation, it would not be probable that foreign coins, to any considerable amount, would be offered, at the Mints, for recoinage. Yet, last year, this recoinage amounted to \$3,460,819; principally of Mexican dollars, which command a premium when wanted for exportation.



On the whole, I am convinced that the relative value of gold and silver established by the acts of 1834 and 1837 was happily chosen; that it has suited the condition of our metallic currency better than any other that could have been selected; and that it does so still.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson  
Director.

107-108  
2nd 6th

To  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of Treasury. }

Receiving his views  
on the relative values  
of gold & silver now  
existing, and the effect  
thereon of the increase  
of the Mexican Mint, &c.  
as in letter of Mr. Wm.  
Davis, Secy. of New York.  
Letter returned.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director U.S. Mint,  
Feb. 10. 1844.



147

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 26th, 1844.

Sir,

A communication has been made to me, dated the 16th inst., by Professor James Pennington, containing certain strictures upon the late Annual Assay at the Mint, which he attended as one of the Commissioners designated by the President. Of this communication he sent you a copy; and, in so doing, he anticipated the course which I should certainly myself have taken; because it is proper that the Head of the Department should be made acquainted even with the doubts which may be expressed on such an occasion, and that they should be explained to him if they admit of explanation.

The first objection made to the Assay is virtually this: that while the proportions of the pure metal to the alloy was determined, no assay was made to ascertain the quality of the alloy itself. The 32d Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, which prescribes the duties of the Assay-Commissioners, says: "Such examination shall be made of the reserved pieces as shall be judged sufficient; and if it shall appear that these pieces do not differ from the standard fine-

Original MS. Pennington  
Feb. 10, 1844.



2.

ness and weight by a greater quantity than is allowed by law, the trial shall be considered and reported as Satisfactory, &c." Now the Standard fineness is declared, by Sect. 8, to be "Such that of 1000 parts by weight 900 shall be of pure metal and 100 of alloy." It is true that the Section goes on to state of what material the alloy shall consist; but the analysis which would be necessary to prove that it was all copper, or copper and silver in certain proportions, is not called for by the Section which regulates the Annual Assay, and, for the fifty successive years that these Annual Assays have been held, has never been deemed of such interest or importance as to be made or asked for.

It is proper here to state that at the late meeting of the Commissioners the first step taken was to read aloud all the Sections of the Act bearing upon the business of the day; the second was to read the Minutes of the last meeting, showing the course followed on that occasion, and which it was proposed again to pursue, if no objection or suggestion was made to the contrary. In the Assays there reported, it appeared that no analysis of the alloy was made, and if Mr. Hewitts had then stated his desire to know the proportion of silver in the Charlotte gold coins, he should have been gratified.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

11 12



The next paragraph of Mr. Penwick's communication contains several strictures which it is necessary that I consider separately.

It is said that the humid assay of the silver coins was not satisfactory to one of his colleagues, because there was no explanation given of the method. The Commissioner referred to is, Gen. Coles; and Mr. DuBois, who conducted the assay, assures me that he did endeavor to explain the process to him. That he may not have succeeded, with a gentleman who cannot be supposed to have any familiarity with Chemical science, is very probable, and is not, I think, a ground of accusation. At our Annual Assays, care has always been taken, since Special Com-missioners have been authorized, that one of them at least should be a Chemist, able to comprehend the process employed. But I think I shall show, as I proved, that this knowledge is not necessary in order that a Commissioner may have satisfactory evidence of the accuracy and fidelity of the Assays.

Mr. Penwick next remarks, that "no preliminary trial was made of the solution of salt employed". Of all the difficulties suggested in Mr. Penwick's communication, this is the only one that he mentioned to me at the time, and I have to regret that he has forgotten the answer which I gave to him. It was that the



21.  
 test of the solution was made, and was made, not  
 beforehand, but at the time the assay was going for-  
 ward; and that, in fact, the solution did not prove  
 to be of the true standard strength. Our course  
 in conducting the silver assay is this: A roll of  
 perfectly pure silver, (which was originally brought  
 from the Paris Mint, and afterwards carefully tested  
 here,) is kept in the box with the coins reserved  
 for the annual assay, enclosed in an envelope of  
 paper under the private seal of the Judge of the  
 U. S. District Court, who always acts as Chairman  
 of the Commission. When the assay of silver is to  
 be made, the seals of the envelope are broken,  
 and a test piece is taken from the roll, and weighed  
 in the presence of the Commissioners. The assay pieces  
 from the coins are taken, as described in the report  
 sent to you, and these are also weighed. These  
 pieces and the test piece are then subjected, at the  
 same time, to the same process of assay. The precise  
 amount of the standard Saline Solution necessary  
 for the test piece, <sup>is known.</sup> If more, or less, be required,  
 it is a proof that the solution varies from the  
 standard to that extent; and this is the test of the  
 solution required, and shows the precise correction to  
 be applied to the other assays. This application is per-  
 fectly simple; and thus to be convinced of the accuracy  
 of these assays, it is only requisite that the Commissioners  
 have faith in the pure test silver set apart, and in  
 the accuracy of the printed tables used for the  
 humid assay at the Mint of Paris. - I think, therefore,

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 only became  
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that the results might be satisfactory even to a Commissioner who cannot comprehend the whole theory of the Chemical process followed.

Mr. Rennick's next structure has regard to the assay of gold, with which he finds fault only because the precise course prescribed by Chaudet is not followed. In stating this discrepancy, however, Mr. Rennick confounds the instructions for the assay of pure gold and that of alloyed gold. For the latter Chaudet recommends a course which is followed exactly by Mr. Eckfeldt, except in one important point; and this is that Chaudet uses but two courses of acid to separate the silver from the gold, while Mr. Eckfeldt uses three. His repeated experiments showed that when two acids only were employed, a sensible portion of silver remained in the cornet; which was separated, however, by the third, almost wholly. I say almost, for it is not pretended, by any chemist, that the cornets left from the assay are mathematically pure. That the use of two acids only is not sufficient is proved to our satisfaction by the fact that the French gold coins almost uniformly fall one thousandth short of their legal standard.

In the assay of gold, use is made of a roll of pure gold, preserved from year to year, with the same precautions and formalities as I have described for the roll of pure silver. The



6. Weight of 1000 millièmes of this is taken, and the same weight of the several specimens of coinage under trial. These are all subjected to precisely the same process. The pure gold after the cupellation, and parting by acid, ought still to weigh 1000. It is always found to weigh a trifle more; and this additional weight is a correction to be subtracted from all the <sup>other</sup> assays. Nothing can be more fair, or, I had hoped, more entirely satisfactory. Mr. Remondet indeed seems surprised that any of the silver plates in the cupel, with the pure gold, should have been found still attached to it. If the ordinary process of assay of the French Mint had been employed, we have Chaudet's own authority for saying that the pure gold would show "almost always a surcharge <sup>in the assay at the Mint, the surcharge is equivalent to a weight of 1 to 2 millièmes.</sup>" which, it will probably surprise you to learn, corresponds to the 389th part of a grain. The best French Assay balances, one of steel, with steel supports for the knife-edges. Ours, (made by Mr. Saxton,) one of palladium, with the beam resting on agate, and the scale dishes hanging from rubies. We can therefore detect more minute differences of weight than could be shown by the balances of the Paris Mint. But in the ordinary operations we never report nearer than half a millième, and the law allows a variation of two millièmes above or below the true standard for gold, and of three millièmes for silver. In the analysis made at the late Annual Assay, the gold of Philadelphia and Dahlonega differed



from the Standard one tenth of a millième, that of Charlotte two tenths, and that of New Orleans five tenths.

The explanations which I have thus given, (and which I fear you may have found tedious,) as to the use of the test specimens of pure gold and pure silver, &c, I hope be found a satisfactory answer to another apparently grave stricture on the assays; namely, "that the character and purity of the Chemical agents employed rests wholly on the good faith of the very officers whose fidelity and skill is under trial." I may observe, as to the question of fidelity, that the Assayers can have no interest whatever in falsifying their work, as no gold or silver passes into their hands, except the minute specimens required for the assays. I will moreover remark that with regard to three of the four Mints, even their skill is not under trial; while the assays from these Mints, made at the same time and precisely in the same manner as our own, present an impartial evidence both of the purity of the Chemical agents, and of the accuracy of the processes.

I have now considered all the strictures made by Mr. Rennie upon the subjects which came within the scope of his functions as a Commissioner, and which bore upon the course pursued by our Assayers. I am happy in believing that these gentlemen



8.

are entirely exonerated from all just blame. They are, indeed, officers worthy of all confidence and commendation. They have studied their department most thoroughly; and are not men to follow the authority even of Chaudet, when careful experiments of their own, often repeated, show the processes by which they can obtain more accurate results.

Leaving the business of the Annual Assay, Mr. Renwick is kind enough to show the interest which he took in his visit to the Mint, by making remarks on some other points connected with the establishment.

The first of these observations refers to the circumstance of our not having introduced the process of parting gold and silver by Sulphuric instead of Nitric acid. Ten years ago, Mr. Peale (now Chief Coiner,) was sent to Europe, by my predecessor in office, to learn the new Sulphuric acid process, and he succeeded fully in the object of his mission; so that we are in possession of all the knowledge necessary for the introduction of this process. It has not been deemed expedient to employ it, however, for the following very valid reasons.



1st. The apparatus could not be placed in this building for want of room. It requires two stories to be occupied, one above the other, and we have them not at command.

2d. The fumes of Sulphurous acid given off are so offensive as to form a nuisance not to be tolerated in the midst of a city. Hence the establishments in Paris are all placed beyond the walls. I may remark, moreover, that they are all private enterprises; for the Mint does not refine the precious metals, as we are obliged to do.

3d. The apparatus required is very expensive. Four platinum vessels which would be needed would alone cost \$20,000, and the other fixtures not less than \$10,000 more. With the small amount of heating that we have to do, the new process, with the first cost considered, would be far from economical. The interest alone of this outlay would be \$1800, and all the Nitric acid used by us last year cost but \$1160.

4th. The work, in this process, would have to go on at night, as well as by day; and it is unsafe, and on other accounts objectionable, to have the Mint open at night.



10.

5th. A great improvement in the Minting process, invented by Arfwedson, and now used in all our Mints, renders a change from that process much less desirable than it was formerly.

Mr. Renwick's last remarks have regard to the imperfection of our coins. He observes, that they are less in relief than those of France and England. This I believe to be a mistake, though it is a very natural one. I do not know a head on any coin that has a finer effect than that of Louis Philippe on the five franc piece. It appears not only very distinct, but very prominent. Yet if it be examined with care, it will be found to be very flat. The effect of high relief is produced by the artist, by so managing the slight depressions and elevations, as skilfully to mingle lights and shadows, and by their means to give the effect of a drawing. There is nothing in the mechanical part of coinage which we cannot accomplish. What we want is art, and art of a higher order than we have yet been able to command. If we had even an artist who could model a medallion in wax, with the requisite skill, we could accomplish the rest. I have spared no exertion in the improvement of our coins, as specimens of art, but



11

And that my success has been very imperfect.  
 The figure of Liberty, designed by Sully, is beautiful,  
 but the figure on the coin is certainly not of  
 corresponding merit. This is not, as Mr. Ken-  
 neth supposes, because the same expression  
could not be given in basso relief, but be-  
 cause it requires, for its execution, a higher order  
 of skill than we possess in this country. My  
 experience in this matter has served to con-  
 firm the adage: "Art is difficult: Criticism  
 easy."

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,

To /

Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



1418

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 27, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a report of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches for January.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

D. W. Patterson  
(Director.)

To

Mr. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

showed a gradual improvement, in the Mexican



129  
Mint of the United States,  
March 7th, 1844.

Sir,  
In compliance with a provision in the Act of March 2d, 1843, regulating the currency of certain foreign gold and silver coins in the United States, I have prepared the following report of the results of assays, made at the Mint, to determine their fineness, weight, and value.

The gold coins of Great Britain maintain the standard specified in the Act. They are 915.5 thousandths <sup>fine</sup>, and are worth 94.6 cents per dw't.

The gold coins of France are also found to be of the same quality as heretofore; being 899 thousandths fine, and worth 92.9 cents per dw't.

Of silver coins, the Spanish pillar dollar, and the dollars of Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia, are made current at one dollar, provided they be not less than 897 thousandths in fineness, and 415 grains in weight.

The Spanish pillar dollar, (which has long ceased to be coined,) always maintained this fineness, and rather exceeded it; but by reason of wear, they are now scarcely of the required weight, and, on an average, are barely equal in value to our dollar. The other dollars specified, being kept up by fresh issues, generally exceed the limit of weight, averaging from 415.5 to 416.5 grains. Their fineness, however, is somewhat variable, and we have noticed a gradual improvement, in the Mexican,



and a slight deterioration in the Bolivian dollars. Recent Mexican dollars, in masses, vary from 897 to 900 thousandths in fineness, and are worth from 100.5 to 101 cents. The Peruvian are worth nearly or quite 101 cents, and the Bolivian about 100.5 cents.

The only other silver coin named in the act is the five-franc piece of France, which is made current at 93 cents, if not less than 900 thousandths fine, and 384 grains in weight. They are found fully equal to these rates, and yield on an average from 93 to 93.2 cents.

The foreign coins thus reported upon comprise all those which are found in sufficient quantity in the United States to call for legal provisions to regulate their circulation, or which are sufficiently uniform in their character to admit of such provision. But in consequence of the omission of a repealing clause in the Act of March 3, 1823, the Acts of June 25 and 28, 1834, are still in force in respect to some other varieties of coin.

Thus the gold coins of Spain, Mexico, & Colombia of the fineness of 20 carats  $3\frac{7}{16}$  grains, (equivalent to 869 thousandths,) are made current at 89.9 cents per dwyt. But the enactment is useless for two reasons. First because they are inconstant in fineness, the extreme variations being from 844 to 874 thousandths; and secondly, because they have a commercial value almost always varying from, and superior to their intrinsic worth. The gold coins of Portugal, of 22 carats, ( $916\frac{2}{3}$  thousandths,) fine, are rated at 94.8 per dwyt. The few that remain are about 914 thousandths.



smaller fine, and are worth 94.4 cents per dwt.  
The other coins made current by this Act are the  
dollars of Chili and Central America, and Spanish  
dollars restamped in Brazil. All these reach the  
assumed value of 100 cents; but they are rarely  
met with in this country.

There is still another Act, bearing date April  
10, 1806, which contains provisions untouched by  
subsequent enactments, and which must there-  
fore continue to be operative. This act legalized  
the parts of a "Spanish milled-dollar", if their weight  
be in the proportion of 415 grains to the dollar. Now  
these pieces are so reduced by wear, that on an  
average, the half-dollar is worth but 49 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents;  
the quarter-dollar about 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; the eighth, 11 cents,  
and the sixteenth, 5.2 cents. All of these, except  
the half-dollar, are very plenty in our circulation,  
and, so long as a trace of a pillar or letter is  
to be seen upon them, pass generally at <sup>the</sup> rates which  
seem to be given to them by the above law; though,  
for some months past, they have been discredited  
at the government offices and the banks, except  
at their actual mint value.

The same law makes current the French coins,  
at 110 cents, if it weigh 449 grains. We occasionally get some  
run-out pieces of this denomination for recoinage, and find  
them actually worth not more than 108 cents. They ceased  
to be coined in 1793, and are now rare even in France.

Lastly, by this law, the gold coins of France, Spain,  
and the dominions of Spain, were legalized at one dollar  
for 27.4 grains, corresponding to 87.6 cents per dwt.



This, I presume, is unrepealed as to Louis-d'ors, and gold of Spanish States, such as Central America, Chili, Bolivia, and the Argentine Republic. Yet another Act, passed March 3, 1823, makes the Spanish gold coins receivable, for public lands, at different rates, namely, One dollar for 28½ grains, or 84 cents per

Conformably to provisions in these two Acts, (of 1806 and 1823,) it is my duty to report, that the French gold of old standard, is 897 to 901 thousandths fine, and worth 92.7 to 93.1 cents per dw't; the gold coins of Chili, 868 thousandths fine, are worth 89.9 cents per dw't. Of those of Central America and the Argentine Republic, our specimens are so few, and rate so far below the required fineness, that no specific valuation can or need be made of them.

It will be seen, from the above statements, that all the legal provisions, anterior to the Act of March 3, 1823, which still remain in force, regarding the currency of foreign coins, either apply to such as are rarely met with, or give a wrong valuation. These provisions, therefore, serve to bring error and confusion into our currency, and I would respectfully suggest the propriety of repealing them.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

To/ Hon. John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



159

Mint of the United States.  
March 15, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith the official bond of G. W. Caldwell, Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, with the certificate, required by law, that it is to my satisfaction.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> John C. Spencer, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
March 22, 1844.

Sir,

On the 13th of December last, you announced to me that you would be under the necessity of drawing on the Mint, for \$100,000, to be paid out of the amount deposited there for the prompt payment of depositors of bullion for coinage."

In an answer to this letter, written on the 15th of the same month, I mentioned the embarrassment which this draft would cause to the Mint, and stated the condition of our bullion funds at the time.

On the 19th, the draft was presented by Mr. Callan, on account of the Bank of the Metropolis, and payment of the whole amount was tendered; but as the greater part of it could only be paid in small coins, and the agent had instructions as to the kind of coins wanted, he concluded to take but \$40,000, with a due bill for the balance, viz: \$60,000.

This balance not having been called for, I wrote to the Cashier of the Bank of the Metropolis, on the 4th of January, that we were ready to pay it;

Received of the Mint  
March 15, 1844.



And I learned from him, in answer, that the claim had been handed over to the Bank of North America in this City. When application was made to this Bank, we were requested to delay the payment, as they had not room in their vaults for the coins. To this wish we yielded, until our Treasurer became unwilling that the balance should remain longer against us, and it was accordingly paid in full yesterday.

Our Government deposits is accordingly now reduced to \$204,960.94; composed of 98,062 in gold, and \$106,898.94 in silver bullion.

This is not a sufficient fund to insure prompt payment to depositors; and on my explaining the reasons of this to you, in my letter of Dec. 3, 1824, you gave us a draft for \$100,000,- the amount which, in December, you found it necessary again to withdraw.

The object of this present communication is to ask that this amount may be again given to us, if the condition of the Treasury will admit it; and if that be not now the case, that you will have the goodness to keep our necessities in mind, and aid us whenever it shall be convenient for you to do so.

To: Hon. Ans. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of Treasury,

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson.



Suggesting the necessity  
of increasing the Third  
Deposit.

Atch

I shall like \$100.00 be returned  
to the owner by a bank for draft  
on 22 Sept. Receipt submitted  
8/22/92  
9/22/92

Mr. Green  
I am not comfortable why  
a large amount of business should  
be removed. There has been a  
large increase in the 5 years?

The 107 March 23/92

W. H. Patterson

Sir,

I have

Statement of  
Branches, and

This

consequence  
sent from  
the 26th

To  
Hon. John  
Secretary

W. H. Patterson,  
March 11. 5. 1892,  
March 22. 1894,



152.

Mint of the United States,  
April 3. 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith a statement of the operations of the Mint and Branches, in the month of February.

This statement has been delayed in consequence of the non-reception of the report from Charlotte Branch Mint until the 26th ult.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

D. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }

Statement of the operations of the Mint and Branches, in the month of February, 1844.



153.

Mint of the United States,  
April 11th, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed a  
Statement of the operations of the Mint and its  
Branches, in the month of March last.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson, Director,

per Geo. F. Stanning,

Director's Clerk.

To/

Mrs. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



1851

Mint of the United States,  
April 15, 1844.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope, to the Superintendent of the Br. Mint at New Orleans, which I beg you to forward, as heretofore, under your frank. — Three other boxes will be sent by successive mails.

The box of coins from New Orleans, announced in your letter of the 11th, was received this morning.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson, Director,

per Geo. F. Downing,

Director's Clerk.

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer,

Secretary of the Treasury. }

Box of dies sent to New Orleans  
April 11, 1844.



1853

Mint of the United States,  
May 1, 1844.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you three boxes of dies for the New Orleans Branch Mint, which I beg may be forwarded under your frank as usual.

The first box was sent by the mail of yesterday: the second goes to day; and the third will follow to-morrow.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Hon. John C. Spencer,  
Secretary of Treasury.



156

Mint of the United States.  
May 15, 1844.

Sir,  
I have to acknowledge the receipt of the  
package of Assay-coins from New Orleans,  
announced in your letter of yesterday.

I have also duly received a package  
of assay coins from the Dahlmeyer Mint,  
announced in your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
McClintock Young, Esq.  
Sec. of Treasury, ad interim.

P.S. I send, by this mail, the first of a series  
fine cases of dies for the New Orleans Mint,  
which I pray you to forward under your package.

Received of the U.S. Mint,  
May 1, 1844.



McKo

157

Mint of the United States,  
May 27, 1844.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> inst., I have the honor to state, that the copper furnished to the Mint for coinage is, as required by law, "in planchets fit for passing at once into the hands of the Chief Coiner";—that the price given by us for these planchets is 32 cents per lb. Avordupois, furnished in kegs, delivered at the Mint, and paid for in Copper Coins;—that the average annual weight of the planchets used, in the last five years, has been 57,602 lbs. Avoir.;—and consequently the average annual cost \$18,432.64.

We have, for several years, procured all our planchets, from the house of Crocker, Brothers, & Co., at Taunton, Massachusetts. This <sup>House</sup> ~~however~~, it may be proper to state to you, is under express obligations not to part with the copper coins received by them in payment, at a less price, ~~than~~ in other moneys, than their nominal value.

If the persons who have made proposals



to the Department "to furnish American Copper for  
the use of the Mint", can offer more favorable  
terms, I shall be glad to enter into negotiation  
with them.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson

(Director)

To/ }  
McClintock Young, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Ad interim. }



12.5  
7.25  
12.5  
5.25  
Copper

158

Mint of the United States,  
May 27. 1844.

Sir

In answer to your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Inst, I have the honor to state, that the Copper furnished to the Mint for coinage is, as required by law, "in planchets fit for packing at once into the hands of the chief coiner;" - that the price given by us for these planchets is 32 cents per pound, avoirdupois, furnished in kegs, delivered at the Mint, and paid for in Copper coins; - that the average annual weight of the planchets used, in the last five years, has been 57,602 lbs avoi; - and consequently the average annual cost \$18,432.64.

We have, for several years, procured all our planchets, from the house of Crocker, Brothers & Co. at Taunton, Massachusetts. This House, it may be proper to state to you, is under express obligations not to part with the Copper Coins received by them in payment, at a less price, in other money, than their nominal value.

If the persons who have made proposals  
to



to the Department, "to furnish American Copper  
for the use of the Mink," can offer more  
favorable terms, I shall be glad to  
enter into negotiation with them.

Very respectfully  
Your faithful Servant  
(Signed) R. M. Patterson  
Director

To  
Mr. Clinton Young Esq  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington.



I do not think that  
 there ought to be  
 a movement of having  
 taken in placing the  
 miners of this country  
 on a footing of equality  
 with the emigrants of  
 the foreign countries.

The second thought  
 in this letter that of  
 the persons who have  
 made proposals  
 to the Dept. to furnish  
 American copies  
 for the use of the  
 mint are of the  
more favorable kind  
 & shall be glad to enter  
 into negotiations with  
 them. When done and printed,

as the working  
 & seemed since  
 to the House of  
more favorable  
 terms than the  
 foreign or his  
 agent.

Very  
 truly  
 yours

James B. Eschscholtz



189

Mint of the United States,  
June 10, 1844.

Sir,

I send herewith a bill presented by Mr. John S. Buegel, together with a note from him to me and my answer, and I have respectfully to beg instructions from the Department as to the course which I am to pursue. I will take the liberty, however, of laying before you my own views of the several items of the bill.

1st item. Mr. Buegel claims his salary from the 1st of April 1840 to the 10th of June of the same year; (He has written 1844 by mistake;) and he makes the amount \$133.00. He was dismissed from the Mint on Saturday the 9th of May. From the 1st of April to the 9th of May inclusive is 39 days, and the whole quarter had 91 days. His charge therefore should have been ( $\frac{39}{91}$  of \$300) \$128.57; and this amount ought, I think, to be paid; inasmuch as our claim against Mr. Buegel for "Money had and received" was not sustained by the Court.

Received by Mr. Buegel  
May 27, 1844.



2d item. The old law regarding the expenses of the distribution of copper coins was repealed by the Act of June 18. 1837; but it really ceased to be acted upon at the close of the year 1836. At that time there was, in Mr. Benezet's hands, \$503.86 of funds supplied by the Department, under the old law, for the expenses of distribution. For this he was of course accountable. But it was asserted, <sup>by Mr. Benezet's counsel,</sup> at the trial, that this same money was used for paying for distribution as long as that duty remained in his charge, namely till the 8th of February, 1838; and it appears from his memorandum book that the amount paid for the purpose, in this interval, was \$533.72; which exceeds the amount in his hands at the beginning of the period in question by \$29.86;—and such is the origin of the claim which he states at \$29.86.

Now supposing the view of this account assumed at the trial, and sustained by the verdict to be correct, it by no means justifies the claim made for the balance. By the law of June 1837, Sect. 37, it is enacted "That the money received by the Treasurer, in exchange for copper coins, shall form a fund in his hands, which



the expense shall be used to purchase copper planchets, and  
 to pay the expense of transportation of copper coins;  
 and that if there be a surplus, the same shall  
 be appropriated to defray the contingent ex-  
 penses of the Mint." This fund was therefore,  
 during the whole period in question, accessible  
 to Mr. Benezet, for the expenses of distribution.  
 What probability, then, is there, that he paid  
 any part of these expenses out of his  
 own pocket? Proof - there is certainly none.

3d item. It is for the Department to deter-  
 mine whether any allowance shall be made  
 for interest, & if any to what amount.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To/

McClintock Young, Esq.,  
 Secretary of the Treasury,  
ad interim.



(Copy)

160

Mint of the United States.  
 June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

The claim which you have presented  
 against the mint this morning, shall  
 be immediately laid before the Depart-  
 ment at Washington, as I cannot act in  
 a case of this kind without its sanction.

Your faithful servant, &c.,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

John S. Benzel, Esq.

Received of the  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 June 10, 1844.



Mint of the United States

To John A. Bennett --- Dr.

161

1844

10. For Salary as Treasurer, Clerk from the 1<sup>st</sup> of  
April 1840 to the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1844 at \$1200. } --- 133. 00  
per annum ---

For this amount paid by me for copper coins  
distributed over and above the amount of funds } --- 29. 50  
in my hands for that purpose ---

Intent on the above sum for 4 years 1 month --- 39. 81

\$ 202. 31

118.  
59  
8

9. 128. 57  
10. 131. 87

John A. Bennett  
June 10, 1844



Philadelphia June 10<sup>th</sup> 1844

J. R. M. Patterson

Sir

I presume you have before this been apprised that all proceedings on the part of the United States against me have been withdrawn, this being the fact there can certainly be no reason for not discharging the claim here with interest.

Will you have the goodness to give the amount to my son who is hereby authorized to receipt for the same.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt Servt.  
John S. Bennett



162

Mint of the United States,  
June 11, 1844.

Sir,

I send, by the present mail, a box of dies for the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and will send seven more, by successive mails; and have respectfully to request that you will forward them under your frank as heretofore.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th, respecting the purchase of copper planchets for the Mint, and will reply to it as soon as I receive information for which I have applied to the house from which we now receive our supplies.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

McClintock Young, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Ad interim.



1103

Mint of the United States,  
June 18, 1844.

Sir,

I have already acknowledged the receipt of your letter of the 8th inst., in which you mention that I would probably receive a proposal from Mr. Charles Bracken of Wisconsin, to supply the Mint with copper planchets, and you, at the same time, convey to me the very just sentiment of the President, that in the contracts for the United States Mint a preference should be given to United States Copper.

I have since received a letter from J. B. Jones, Esq., of Washington City, who states that he is interested in the Wisconsin works, and presents the terms on which it is proposed to furnish the Mint with planchets; namely at 40 cents per pound Avordupois, of which one half is to be paid in copper coins. I have already stated to you that our contract with Crocker, Brothers & Co., of Taunton, Massachusetts, is 32 cents per lb., the whole payable in copper coins; and I now add that when paid in other money, their price is 30 cents per lb.



In order to show the bearing of the new terms and the old, upon the interests of the Mint, I beg leave to lay before you the following statements.

During the last three years, there have been received and coined at the Mint 175,688 lb. Avordupois of copper planchets; for which there was paid, in copper coins, \$56,220.16. The expenses of distribution, for the same period, were \$910.03; and the actual net profits derived from the sale of the copper coin was \$16,453.83.

Now if 40 ct. per lb. were paid for the planchets, the cost of 175,688 lb. would be \$70,275.20; and if to this we add the expense of distribution, \$910.03, the total cost to the Mint would be \$71,185.23.

But as 1000 cents weigh 24 lb., 175,688 lb. should produce, in copper coins \$73,203.33. So that the profits to the Mint, for three years' operations in this coinage, would be reduced from \$16,453.83 to \$2,018.10.

But in our present arrangement, the whole of the copper coins paid for the planchets are distributed by the Contractors or their Agents, & thus the amount of distribution is increased, and the expenses, to us, very much diminished. If, according to the proposal of Mr. Jones, one half only of the cost of the planchets were paid in copper coins, even the above estimated profit, which



is but \$672.70 in the year, would fail, and the only operation which serves, in any degree, to relieve the expenses of the Mint, would cease to be available.

If, however, for the sake of encouraging the U.S. miners, and having coins of United States copper, there might still be a disposition to make this sacrifice, it could not be done in the coming fiscal year; because, in making out my estimates for the expenses of the Mint, the expected profits from the Copper Coins were introduced, and if they were now to be abandoned, or sensibly reduced, the appropriations would not be sufficient.

I feel myself constrained, therefore, to decline the proposal which has been made by Mr. Jones.

I must add that we have not, for several years, received any platelets from Europe, but that the whole manufacture of our coins is American. Mess. Crocker inform me that they formerly relied almost entirely on the Peruvian mines for their Copper, but that within a few years a part was obtained from the mines in the United States, of which the produce is gradually increasing, though it, as yet, forms but a small part of the copper used for Manufacturing in this



Country."

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

McC. Young Esq.,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
ad interim.

}

Man. open and return

H

Ms. 218, June 20/44  
McClelland

Accepting a pleasure  
to furnish copies of the  
acts, made from N.D.  
Copies.

Director of the Treasury,  
Washington,  
June 18, 1844.

Sir,

Statement  
Branch

McClelland

To/

McC  
Sec



1041

Mint of the United States,  
June 18, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith, a  
Statement of the Operations of the Mint and  
Branches, for the month of May.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To/

Mc Clintock Young, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Ad interim.



Copy

145

Mint of the United States  
June 26<sup>th</sup> 1844

Sir,

Being desirous of complying with the wishes of the President, that, for the encouragement of our own mines, and the credit of circulating copper of our own country, I should if practicable procure for the Mint planchets of United States Copper, I wrote on the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. to Mess Brooker, Brothers & Co., of Jauntou, Mass, who have for several years supplied us with all our planchets, to know whether they could comply with this condition, and on what terms. - I have received from them the following answer, under date of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst.

" In reply to your enquiries, we have now today, that we will make and furnish you with the planchets you may need, made from copper of the United States Mines, at the same price and on the same terms that we have heretofore; although it may cause some inconvenience, and at times subject us

Received by the Mint  
 June 18, 1844



us to additional expense."

I have gladly taken advantage of this offer, and have given instructions to Messrs Crocker, Brothers, & Co, that the plans etc. furnished by them to the Mint, hence forward, shall be made from Copper of the mines in the United States.

Very respectfully

Your faithful servant

(Signed) R M Patterson

Director.

McClintock Young Esq  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Ad Interim



Mem<sup>o</sup>

In calling the attention of the President to Doct  
Patterson's letter, bear in mind that, I proposed  
furnishing Native Copper for our Coins as much  
through national feeling as with a view to profit.

It is evident to me, and must have been so to  
Doct Patterson that, it was the intention of the  
President to encourage the production of the article  
and not the second hand manufacture.

Again, what evidence can the Director of the  
Mint have, that the planchets furnished by  
Messrs Crocker Brothers & Co are really & truly made from  
American Pig Copper, as opposed to Pig Copper  
they may substitute planchets made from English  
or Spanish Copper and the Director may wonder  
how he means in his power of detecting the fraud.

On the other hand I am a producer of Copper  
from the ore, and could have no motive in supplying  
the Mint with any other than Native Copper.

C. Crocker



166

Mint of the United States.  
 Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

Being desirous of complying with the wishes of the President, that, for the encouragement of our own mines, and the credit of circulating copper of our own country, I should if practicable procure for the Mint planchets of United States Copper. — I wrote, on the 18<sup>th</sup> inst., to Messrs. Crocker, Brothers, & Co., of Taunton, Mass., who have for several years supplied us with all our planchets, to know whether they could comply with this condition, and on what terms. — I have received from them the following answer, under date of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst.

"In reply to your inquiries, we have now to say, that we will make



and furnish you with the plauchets you may need, made from copper of the United States Mines, at the same price and on the same terms that we have heretofore; although it may cause some inconvenience, and at times subject us to additional expense.

I have gladly taken advantage of the offer, and have given instructions to Messrs Crocker, Brothers, & Co., that the plauchets furnished by them to the Mint, henceforward shall be made from Copper of the Mines in the United States.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

McClintock Young, Esq. }  
 Secretary of the Treasury, }  
 Ad interim.



Recd. June 29

Mr. Will

167

Mint of the United States.  
Philadelphia, June 28, 1844.

Sir,

During the recess of Congress, Mr. Isaac L. Todd was appointed, by the President, to the office of Assayer of the Branch Mint at Dahlmeza. I have not seen any notice of the confirmation of this appointment by the Senate. May I ask you to do me the favor of informing me what is the true state of this case, so important to an institution in which I know that you feel a personal as well as an official interest?

I am the honor to be, Sir,  
with great respect,  
your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
Honble John C. Calhoun,  
Secretary of State.



158

Mint of the United States.  
May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith  
a report of the operations of the  
Mint and Branch Mints for the  
month of April.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/  
McClintock Young, Esq. }  
Secretary of the Treasury }  
Ad interim. }



MCK

169

Mint of the United States.  
July 8th, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., presenting an answer to an inquiry which I had addressed to the Secretary of State, by a mistake which I have to day taken the liberty to explain to him.

From the information which you have communicated, it appears that the Branch Mint of Dahlonega is now without an official Assayer, and its operations must, I presume, be in consequence interrupted. As that institution has been receiving deposits for coinage at the rate of about \$50,000 per month, this interruption must be a serious inconvenience to the miners

Mint of the United States

Mint of the United States



miners of Georgia. It is very desirable  
therefore, that the attention of the Depart-  
ment should be directed to this circum-  
stance, in order that as little delay as  
possible may occur in filling the impor-  
tant office now vacant.

I have understood that Mr. Smith  
of Charleston, the State Assayer of South  
Carolina, would be an eligible candi-  
date for the place, but I have not, my-  
self, any knowledge of his competency.

I am the honor to be, Sir,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> Genl. G. B. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



170

Mint of the United States.  
July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir, I am happy to find, by an official notice in the Madisonian of yesterday, that Mr. Isaac L. Todd has been again appointed Assayer of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega. He has proved himself a laborious, faithful, and accurate officer; and my thoughts would never have been directed to any other individual, for the place which he has so satisfactorily filled, if I had not supposed that his nomination was purposefully withheld from the Senate.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Wm. G. Bick,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



171

Mint of the United States,  
July 16, 1844.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive, yesterday, your letter of the 10th instant, respecting the propriety of obtaining the supplies of copper planchets, needed for the coinage at the Mint, from the Miners of this metal in the United States. My letter to the Department of the 18th ult., presents my views on this subject, and gives reasons which must be deemed quite conclusive, why the proposal made by Mr. A. B. Jones, for supplying copper planchets, could not be acceded to.

I have received to day, however, from the same source, a proposal which, so far as concerns the price alone, is unobjectionable. If the other terms prove equally so, I will cheerfully enter <sup>into</sup> an arrangement for procuring planchets from the Wedgwood works; and with this view I shall immediately enter into correspondence with Mr. Charles Bracken, on whose behalf the proposal has been made.



I am quite aware, that for the performance of the promise given by Messrs. Crocker, Brothers, and company, to make our plauchets of United States copper only, I can have no other assurance than the honor of the House itself

very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
 P. M. Patterson  
 (Director.)

To / Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



173

Mint of the United States  
July 17th, 1844.

Sir,

I am requested by the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to ask your consent to a suspension of the operations of that Mint, for the months of August and September of the present season. The climate of New Orleans is such as to have rendered necessary an interruption of the work at the Mint there, during part of every summer since its establishment. In the first season an effort was made to avoid this, and the death of two valuable officers and of several of the men was the consequence.

The labours of the present year at that Mint have been very great; the coinage for the first five months amounting to \$3,426,000. To accomplish this, the



men have been obliged to work at extra hours, and it is judged necessary that an opportunity should be given to them to leave the city and to recruit their strength.

You are aware that a general diminution of business, amounting almost to a suspension, occurs at New Orleans every summer. This circumstance has its influence on the deposits at the Mint for coinage, and makes a temporary suspension of its work of trifling inconvenience, if any, to the business community.

Under these circumstances I cheerfully join the Officers of the New Orleans Mint, in asking your consent to a suspension of their operations for the two next months.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To / Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



173

Mint of the United States.  
July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,  
I have the honor to send you herewith  
a report of the Operations of the Mint  
and its Branches, for the month of June.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Original in the  
Mint of the United States  
July 19, 1844.



174

Mint of the United States  
July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed the official bond of James F. Cooper, as Superintendent of the United States Branch Mint at Dahlonega.

Being satisfied, after due inquiry, with the sufficiency of the Sureties, I have annexed my certificate, to that effect, as required by law.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,

Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States. 178  
 Aug. 1, 1844.

Sir,

I have had two personal interviews with Charles Bracken Egs. of Wisconsin, relative to a contract for furnishing the Mint with copper planchets; and the essential items of the terms which he offered are the following.

The price to be  $31\frac{3}{4}$  cents per lb., payable in gold or silver or their equivalent.

The planchets to be made of copper from mines in the United States.

The planchets to be made at the Works of the Revere Company at Boston.

To judge of these terms, I had to compare them with the following, on which the planchets are now supplied, and which, to the prices, have not varied for several years.

The price is 30 cts. per lb., if paid in gold or silver or their equivalent.

The price is 32 cts. per lb., if paid in the coins.



The planchets are to be made of copper from mines in the United States.

The planchets are made at the works of Parker, Brothers, & Co., at Taunton, Massachusetts.

It appears, then, that where the payments are made in the same manner, the price asked for planchets from the Boston works is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cts per lb., or nearly 6 per ct. more than is paid for those from the Taunton works. But it is the condition which admits payment in copper coins that is by far the most advantageous to the Mint, and this condition is declined by Mr. Bracken.

There is therefore but one motive remaining that could possibly justify me in making a contract with Mr. Bracken, and it is that which you have suggested in your letter of the 10th ult.; namely, "the greater certainty of encouraging the working of our own copper mines, by contracting with the mines themselves, for the necessary supplies of copper for coinage;" because



the worker in place of American."

It will be observed, however, that, in both the cases in question, the copper is to be furnished to us from New England factories, the pay for each of which foreign, as well as domestic copper, is largely employed. We are the Bostoners still thrown upon the honesty of the manufacturer as our only assurance that we are supplied with the kind of copper which he has pledged himself to furnish. Under these circumstances, I have felt it to be my duty to decline the proposals made by Mr. Bracken; and I sincerely hope that my doing so may not meet with your disapprobation.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

Mr. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
August 2<sup>d</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

The Superintendent and the Assayer of the Branch Mint at Charlotte have conveyed to me the melancholy information that the Mint Building in that place was destroyed by fire on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo.

It appears that the fire was first discovered between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, in the upper rooms of the Coiner's Department; and no fires having been made in that Department for more than a week before, it is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The Superintendent states that "all the books, papers, coins, & bullion, (with the exception of some silver in a state of solution in the Refining,) have been saved"; and he expresses a hope that the Machinery is so little injured that it may be fitted up in one of the out-buildings, so as to make it practicable to carry on the operations. "The



Army departments, with their appurtenances," are reported to be but little damaged. All the out-buildings are preserved.

Further information is promised by the next mail.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To/

Hon. Geo. M. Bitt,  
 Secretary of Treasury. }



177

Mint of the United States.  
August 5th, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to return to you  
the enclosed official bond of Isaac  
L. Todd, Assayer of the Branch Mint  
at Dahlonega, with the certificate,  
required by law, that it is to my  
satisfaction.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,  
H. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Received of the Branch  
Mint, Aug. 2, 1844.



178

Minist of the United States.  
August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed a letter from the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, giving a more detailed account of the injury done to the building and machinery by the late fire.

You will no doubt deem it needless to say that an estimate should be prepared of the cost of restoring the machinery and the building; for as the expense must form an important element in the question of an appropriation for reestablishing the mint, information with regard to it will certainly be required by Congress. There seems, moreover, to be some hope entertained by the Superintendent, that the mint may be set into temporary operation with the means now at command.

Branch Mint at Charlotte,  
Aug. 12. 1844.



To get, then, the necessary information  
I would suggest the propriety of send-  
ing here some competent person to ex-  
amine into the condition of the machine  
&c., and to make detailed report there-  
upon.

I have thought of asking this service  
either of the Chief Engineer or of the Fore-  
man of this Unit, and the cost of the  
mission would therefore be confined  
to the travelling expenses.

I respectfully apply for your  
authority to carry into execution the  
course here suggested.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant

R. M. Fetter

Director

To  
Hon. George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



(Copy.)

179

Charlotte, N.C. 7th August 1844.

Sir,

I wrote you upon the 28th ulto. informing you of the destruction of the Mint by fire on the morning of the 27th. and that by the next mail I would forward my usual monthly Report, with such other information relative to the damage sustained by the machinery as I could collect.

It was only this morning that Mr. Bolton has been enabled to make his report of the state of the machinery, in which he says that "the Steam Engine can be repaired and ready for running in a short time, the Rolling Mills have not been damaged so much, - the Drawing machinery has been broken to pieces with the exception of the chain and wheels, - the Milling Machine, with a little expense and labor, can be repaired - the Cutting Presses can be repaired with new fly wheels, - the Coining Presses are much damaged, though it is very probable that one can be repaired (fitted up) out of the two, - the Power Lathe has been so much damaged, that he thinks it is impossible to repair it, - the foot lathe may be repaired with a little labor and expense, - the small tools of every description were precipitated to the bottom of the ruins, - that many of them have been got out, and may be useful again, such as screw plates, taps, and dies for cutting screws, - that all the adjusting scales, with the exception of a small pair in his office, have been destroyed."



He also states that the destruction of the implements in the Refinery has been very severe, nothing has been saved except some silver and a few glass pans. The melting has not met with much loss ~~except~~ with the exception of the sweeps, which were in barrels standing under the piazza, and which are literally covered with the ruins of the walls, - that there is still some hope of collecting the greater portion of them. The workmen are employed in assorting, cleaning up and storing away the Machinery.

We have apprehended Col. Fairth's servant, Mr. Calvin and lodged him in Jail upon a Bench Warrant on pretty strong evidence that he burned the Mill. He will be examined before one of our State judges on Saturday next for commitment or dismissal, the result of which investigation will be communicated.

I enclose you my Report of the amount of Bullion received and Coinage executed during the month of July last.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servant

(Signed) G. W. Caldwell  
Superintendent

Dr. R. M. Patterson  
Director of the Mint  
Philad.



180

Mint of the United States.

Aug. 13, 1844.

Sir,

I take the liberty of laying before you a copy of the whole correspondence regarding the employment of copper from the mines of the United States for the manufacture of the planchets used in the coinage at the Mint. It will fully explain the course which I have taken in this matter, and the motives by which I have been influenced. The desire of the President and the Department that U. S. copper should be used in the Mint coinage was distinctly communicated to me, and I cheerfully determined to conform to it; but I also well knew that it was expected of me, in effecting this purpose, to make such arrangements as should be most for the interest of the government, without regard



2/

to the conferring of personal favors. <sup>It is after</sup>  
 this conviction you will see that I <sup>have</sup>  
 acted throughout.

Permit me now to call your attention <sup>to the</sup>  
 to the present state of this business, <sup>the</sup>

After the decision which I gave <sup>to</sup>  
 Mr. Bracken's proposal, on the 31st of July <sup>the</sup>  
 and which I communicated to you the <sup>next</sup>  
 day with the reasons which led me to it, <sup>could</sup>  
 I supposed that all negotiations with <sup>them</sup>  
 were at an end; and, as the Mint was <sup>new</sup>  
 want of planchets, I gave an order <sup>for</sup>  
 supply to the Treasury House. (Letter <sup>no. 27</sup>)  
 In doing so, however, I expressly required <sup>persons</sup>  
 that the planchets should "be manufactured <sup>from</sup>  
 of copper from mines in the United States <sup>letter</sup>  
 and I asked them "to inform me from <sup>receiving</sup>  
 sources they were able to obtain their <sup>was</sup>  
 pieces of U.S. copper, - as it was important <sup>which</sup>  
 for me to be able to show that they <sup>had</sup>  
 the means of complying with their <sup>express</sup>  
 ment to use this copper exclusively <sup>in</sup>  
 making our planchets." On the 5th <sup>of</sup>  
 their answer (no. 28) was received; <sup>and</sup>



it appeared that, for reasons which they mention, they were not able to supply my order, with U.S. Copper. Under these circumstances, I reduced the order to half the amount; but I felt under the necessity of procuring this much, - because the Unit was in immediate need of plancets, and because no other House could possibly furnish them in time, since they would find it necessary to procure new machinery for the purpose. This order, therefore, was not at all incompatible with a new arrangement with other persons.

In the interval between sending the letter (no 24) with my first order, and receiving an answer to it, a new proposal was made to me by Mr. Bracken, on which I deferred acting until I could get information as to the ability of Mess. Crocker to obtain U.S. Copper; for this ability formed an essential element in the selection which I was called upon to make between the Boston and the



41/

Saunders manufacturers. The answer, received on the 5th inst., was favorable to the views of Mr. Bracken. I accordingly made inquiry for him, and found that he had left the city, but could learn whether he had gone. I waited therefore to hear from him, in order to renew our negotiations.

I did hear from him, on the 10th, and I regret to say that the letter was in the highest degree insulting, vindictive, and slanderous. He ascribed to me, for my course in this matter, motives equally as false and dishonorable; gave a view of the transaction wholly inconsistent with the facts as shown by my correspondence and made accusations without a particle of proof or foundation. I cannot but officially called upon, and descended to defend myself from such an assault. But if any insinuations or accusations against me are laid before you, which you may think worthy of notice, I ask, as an act of justice, that you



will give me an opportunity of presenting  
the explanations which they may require.

I also ask that you will do me  
the favor of laying the enclosed before  
the President. The  
has been pleased to take an active inter-  
est in the proposition to use the Cop-  
per exclusively in the small coinage;  
and I am confident he will see, that in  
seeking to attain this object on the most  
favorable terms, I have conformed my  
course to his own wishes, while I have  
performed what I believed to be my  
imperative duty as an officer of the  
Government.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,  
P. W. Satterlee,  
Director.

To  
Hon. Genl. Bitt,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



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Philadelphia July 31<sup>st</sup> 1844.

George M. Bibb  
 Secretary of the Treasury  
 Sir

I have just received a communication from L. B. Jones Esq. on the subject of a proposition made by him in my name to the Director of the Mint for supplying it with Native Copper for the Government Copper Coinage. After stating that, there was very disposition on your part to further his wishes and encourage the product of Native Copper. He says that, you would again address the Director on the subject. He also suggests that if any further difficulties occur with the Director that, I should communicate with you, during his absence to Maryland.

I have proposed to the Director to supply the Mint for three years with planchets, at 31<sup>st</sup> <sup>cts</sup> per pound, to be paid in gold and silver instead of copper. This proposition is one fourth of a cent less than the foreign article has hitherto been furnishing all I require as encouragement in favour of the Native article, being the mode of payment. I also require that the amount of Copper required for each year be specified. These propositions have not been accepted or acceded to by the Director of the Mint. I think them fair and liberal, should you concur with me. I



would therefore respectfully request of you that, <sup>on the basis of this</sup>  
 additional instructions be given. Doct Patterson on the  
 Subject.

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obedt Servant  
 Parker Bracken



Copy of Correspondence relative to the proposals of Mr. Charles Bracken, of Wisconsin, to furnish American Copper for the use of the Mint, comprising letters numbered from 1 to 31 inclusive.

No. 1. - Recd. May 24th.

From Secretary of the Treasury ad interim,  
to the Director of the Mint.

"Treasury Department  
May 22. 1844

Sir,

A proposal has been made to the Department to furnish American Copper for the use of the Mint.

Will you have the goodness to state the price at which copper is purchased by the Mint, and also the quantity consumed annually, and to add such remarks as you may deem necessary.

I remain respectfully,

To/

(Signed) Wm. C. Young,

Dr. R. M. Patterson,

Sec. of Treas. ad int.

Director of the Mint,

Philad.?

No. 2.

Director of the Mint, to Secy of Treasury ad interim.

Mint of the United States,

May 27, 1844.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 22<sup>d</sup> inst., I have the honor to state that the Copper furnished to the Mint for coinage is, as required by law, "in planchets, fit for passing at once into the hands of the



Chief Coiner"; - that the price given by us for these planchets is 32 cents per pound *Arvidupois*, furnished in kegs, delivered at the Mint, and paid for in copper coins; - that the average annual weight of the planchets used, in the last five years, has been 57,602 lbs. Avoir.; - and consequently the average annual cost \$18,432.64.

We have, for several years, procured all our planchets from the house of Crocker, Brothers, & Co., at Taunton, Mass. This house it may be proper to state to you, is under express obligation not to part with the copper coin received by them in payment, at a less price, in other moneys, than their nominal value.

If the persons who have made proposals to the Department "to furnish American copper for the use of the Mint", can offer more favorable terms, I shall be glad to enter into negotiation with them.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

(signed) R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

McC. Young, Esq.,

Sec. of Treasury ad int.

No. 3. - Rec<sup>d</sup>. June 10th.

Secretary of the Treasury ad int., to the Director of the Mint.

Treasury Department, June 8. 1844.

Sir,

Your letter of the 27th ult., on the subject of the copper furnished to the Mint for coinage was duly received and submitted to the President who has directed me to say that he is of the opinion that the miners of this Country should not only be put upon an equal footing with



the importers of foreign copper, but on the contrary that they should be given more favorable terms than the foreign miner or his agent.

Mr. Charles Brackin who is engaged in mining and smelting copper in the Territory of Wisconsin, will probably communicate with you on the subject.

I remain very respy,

(Signed) M<sup>c</sup>. Young,

Sec. Treas. ad int.

Dr. R. M. Patterson,

Director of the Mint,

Philadelphia.

No. 44.

Director of the Mint, to Mess. Crocker, Brothers, & Co.

Mint of the United States,

June 10. 1844.

Gentlemen,

Will you do me the favor to let me know the sources from which you obtain the copper of which you make the planchets sent to the Mint. If procured from different places, (as I presume it is,) please to let me know as nearly as you can, the proportions from these places. I wish especially to know what proportion is obtained from Mines in the United States.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

(Signed) R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Mess. Crocker, Bros. & Co.,

Truro, Mass.



4/

No. 5.

Director of the Mint, to Secy of Treasury *ad interim*.

Mint of the United States,  
June 11. 1844.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th, respecting the purchase of copper planchets for the Mint, and will reply to it as soon as I receive information for which I have applied to the house from which we now receive our supplies.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

(Signed) R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/ M. C. Young, Esq.,  
Sec. of Treas. *ad int.* }

No. 6. — Recd. June 11th.

J. B. Jones, Esq., to the Director of the Mint.

Washington, June 10. 1844.

Dear Sir,

Being interested in some mining operations, with Mr. Charles Bracken, of Wisconsin Territory, I made application some days since to the Secretary of the Treasury, *ad interim*, for information on the subject of the regulations of the Mint in regard to native metal, - copper being the product of our mining operations.

On Friday Mr. Young handed me a copy of your letter in relation to the subject, and a copy was likewise shown to the President. The President was pleased to express a lively interest in the matter, inasmuch as he understood that the copper coined at our Mint is mostly imported; and he was kind enough to communicate to the Secretary his opinion that better terms might be offered American producers for their encouragement, and for the pride & satisfaction of having in circulation copper coins from American Copper.



I presume Mr. Young has written you on the subject of the President's suggestions, and I should be rejoiced if a contract for two or three years can be effected.

I believe the American Copper is conceded to be of better quality than the European. Our facilities for rolling & cutting, however, being unequal to European producers, we cannot make any profit by the arrangement at thirty-two cents per pound. But I indulged the hope that, for the purpose of getting the Native coin in circulation, you may be disposed, for a limited time at least, to allow us 40 cents, - half in the copper coins, and we contracting not to dispose of it for less than its face value as currency.

Mr. Young says the profits on the Copper coinage, even under the present arrangements, are but small, and the sum total per annum but inconsiderable. This, in one sense, might operate against my proposition, but I have regarded in another, viz. that the Government would not be making much of a sacrifice in encouraging Domestic Miners to the extent asked for.

I should be pleased to have your views on the subject.

Very respectfully,  
(Signed) J. B. Jones,

Esq. R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint.

Ed. Madisonians.

No. 7.

Director of the Mint, to J. B. Jones, Esq.

Mint of the United States,

June 12, 1844.

Dear Sir,

I can do nothing more, in the present letter, than to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the



6/  
10th, and to assure you that the proposition which  
you make shall have my careful & candid con-  
sideration. I have written to the house, from  
which we now get our copper planchets, for  
information which may have an important bear-  
ing upon the question, which you submit to me,  
and I now await the answer.

Very respectfully,

Yours faithful servant,  
(Signed) R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/ }  
L. R. Ames, Esq., }  
Washington. }

No. 8. — Recd. June 15th.

Mess. Crocker, Brothers, & Co., to the Director of the Mint.  
Trenton, June 13. 1844.

R. M. Patterson, Esq.,  
Director U.S. Mint,  
Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favor of the 10th inst.  
we have received, in which you inquire the sources  
from which we obtain the copper used in the  
manufacture of planchets.

We have hitherto relied almost entirely on  
the South American (Peruvian) pig, - but within  
a few years we have used some copper obtained  
from the Mines of the United States.

The produce of these mines is gradually in-  
creasing, but as yet forms but a small part of the  
copper used for manufacturing in this country.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) Crocker, Bros & Co.

P.S. Should you desire more particulars in-  
formation on this subject, we shall feel happy in  
communicating anything in our power.



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No. 9.

Director of the Mint, to Secy of Treasury, ad interim.  
Mint of the United States,  
June 18th, 1844.

Sir,

I have already acknowledged the receipt of your letter of the 8th inst., in which you mention that I would probably receive a proposal from Mr. Charles Brackin, of Wisconsin, to supply the Mint with copper planchets, and you, at the same time, convey to me the very just sentiment of the President, that in the contracts for the United States Mint a preference should be given to United States Copper.

I have since received a letter from J. W. Ines, Esq., of Washington City, who states that he is interested in the Wisconsin works, and presents the terms on which it is proposed to furnish the Mint with planchets; namely at 40 cents per pound avoirdupois, of which one-half is to be paid in copper coins. I have already stated to you that our contract with Crocker, Brothers, & Co., of Taunton, Mass., is 32 cents per lb., the whole payable in copper coins; and I now add that when paid in other money, their price is 30 cents per pound.

In order to show the bearing of the new terms and the old, upon the interests of the Mint, I beg leave to lay before you the following statements.

During the last three years, there have been + received and coined at the Mint 175,688 lbs. avoirdupois of copper planchets; for which there was paid, in copper coins, \$56,220.16. - The expenses of distribution, for the same period, were \$910.03; and the actual net profits derived from the sale of the copper coins was \$16,453.83.



Now if 40 cents per lb. were paid for the plan-  
chets, the cost of 175,688 lbs. would be \$70,275.20;  
and if to this we add the expense of distribution,  
\$910.93, the total cost to the Mint would be  
\$71,185.23. —

But as 1000 cents weigh 24 lbs., 175,688 lbs.  
should produce in copper coins, \$73,203.33. So  
that the profits to the Mint, for three years of  
operations in this coinage, would be reduced  
from \$16,453.83 to \$2,018.10.

But in our present arrangement, the whole  
of the copper coins paid for the planchets  
are distributed by the Contractors or their agents,  
and thus, the amount of distribution is increased,  
and the expenses, to us, very much diminished.  
If, according to the proposal of Mr. Jones,  
one half only of the cost of the planchets  
were paid in copper coins, even the above  
estimated profit, which is but \$672.70 in  
the year would fail, and the only operation  
which serves, in any degree, to relieve the ex-  
penses of the Mint would cease to be available.

If, however, for the sake of encouraging the  
United States Miners, and having coins of United  
States Copper, there might still be a disposition to make this  
sacrifice, it could not be done in the coming fiscal year,  
because in making out my estimate, for the expen-  
ses of the Mint, the expected profits from the copper  
coinage were introduced, and if they were to be now  
abandoned, or sensibly reduced, the appropriations would not be sufficient.  
I feel myself constrained, therefore, to decline the proposal  
which has been made by Mr. Jones.

I must add that we have not, for several years, received  
any planchets from Europe, but that the whole manu-  
facture of our coins is American. Messrs Crocker inform me  
that they formerly "relied almost entirely on the Peruvian  
"mines for their copper, but that within a few years a part  
"was obtained from the mines of the United States, of which  
"the produce is gradually increasing, though it, as yet  
"forms but a small part of the copper used for  
"manufacturing in this country."

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,  
(Signed) R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To J. McClinchok Young, Esq., }  
Sec. of Treasury and int. }



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No. 10.

Minister of the Mint, to J. B. Jones, Esq.  
Mint of the United States,  
June 18, 1844.

Dear Sir,

I have given to the proposal made in your letter of the 10th inst., the full and favorable consideration due to the subject itself, and to the circumstances under which it was presented, and I have felt a sincere desire to accede to your wishes. But I am sorry to say that my inquiries have led to the conclusion, that I could not do so, consistently with the interests of the institution committed to my charge. My reasons are given, at large, to the Secretary of the Treasury (ad int.) and they are such as, I am sure, must be satisfactory to yourself.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
(signed) R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/  
J. B. Jones, Esq.,  
Washington. }

No. 11.

Director of the Mint, to Crocker Bros. & Co.  
Mint of the United States,  
June 18, 1844.

Gentlemen,

I have duly received your letter of the 13th inst., and thank you for the information given as to the sources from which you obtain your copper. A proposal has been made to me for supplying the Mint with planchets from the U.S. Mines, and it is strongly urged on the ground that we should thus be encouraging American industry and circulating American copper. It is thought that with these objects in view I should be justified even in offering more lucrative terms than those under



which you have been supplying us. Let me, then, inquire of you, whether you could obtain enough of the Copper from U.S. Mines, to furnish us with the planchets which we need; and, if so, on what terms you could supply us.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
(Signed) R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/  
Mess. Crocker, Prother, & Co., }  
Tammeter, Mass. }

No. 12. - Recd. June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Crocker, Prother, & Co., to Director of the Mint.  
Tammeter, June 21, 1844.

R. M. Patterson, Esq.,

Director U.S. Mint, - Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favor of the 18<sup>th</sup> inst., is at hand, and we notice your remarks in reference to using American Copper for making the planchets.

In reply to your inquiries, we have now to say that we will make & furnish you with the planchets you may need, made from Copper from U.S. Mines, at the same price, and on the same terms that we have heretofore. Although it may cause some inconvenience, & at times subject us to additional expense.

Very respectfully,  
(Signed) Crocker, Prother & Co.

No. 13. -

Director of the Mint to Crocker, Prother, & Co.  
Mint of the United States,  
June 26, 1844.

Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst., in which



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Your State, in reply to mine of the 18th, "that you will make and furnish us with the planchets we may need, made from copper of the U.S. Mines, at the same price, & on the same terms as heretofore."

The President has himself communicated to me his desire that for the encouragement of our own miners, and the credit of circulating copper of our own country, I should, if practicable, procure for the Mint, planchets of United States copper. I therefore gladly take advantage of your offer, and have to request that the copper furnished by you to the Mint, henceforward, be from the mines of the United States.

The following paragraph has been going the rounds of the newspapers lately:

~~"It is stated that counterfeit pennies, worth 12 cents per hundred, are made by the thousand, in Attleborough, Mass. They may be detected by comparison with the genuine coin. Half the cents in circulation are the Massachusetts issue."~~

~~Can you explain to me the origin of this rumor?~~

~~Very respectfully,~~

~~Your faithful servant,~~

~~(Signed) R. M. Patterson,~~

~~Director.~~

To,  
Messrs. Crockett, Bros. & Co.,

San Antonio, Texas.

No. 14.

Director of the Mint to Secretary of Treasury, advised,  
Mint of the United States,  
June 26, 1844.

Sir,

Being desirous of complying with the wishes of the President, that, for the encouragement of our own mines, and the credit of circulating copper of our own country, I should if practicable procure



for the Mint Planchets of United States Copper, I wrote, on the 18th instant, to Mess. Crocker Brothers, & Co., of Fannin, Mass., who have for several years supplied us with all our planchets, to know whether they could comply with this condition, and on what terms. I have received from them the following answer, under date of the 21st inst:

"In reply to your inquiries we have now to say, that we will make & furnish you with the planchets you may need, made from copper of the U.S. Mines, at the same price and on the same terms that we have heretofore, although it may cause some inconvenience, and at times subject us to additional expense."

I have gladly taken advantage of this offer, and have given instructions to Mess. Crocker, Brothers, & Co. that the planchets furnished by them to the Mint, henceforward, shall be made from copper of the Mines of the United States.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

(Signed) R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To/ }  
M. Clinton Young, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
ad interim.

Nov. 15. — Recd. June 26th.

J. B. Jones, Esq., to Director of the Mint,

Sir, Washington, June 23, 1844.

I have read a copy of your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury ad interim, and am satisfied that the Mint could not, without a considerable sacrifice, coin the Native Copper on the terms proposed by me. And inasmuch as my calculations of the expense of furnishing the planchets from the American Copper would not justify, or rather induce me, to contract at a less price than 40 cents, I have no disposition to change my bid, — and I have declined joining Mr. Bracken in a proposition to furnish the metal on different terms.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) J. B. Jones.

R. M. Patterson, Esq.



No. 16

From / The Secretary of the Treasury

To / The Director of the Mint. Rec<sup>d</sup> 15th July.Department of the Treasury.  
Washington, July 10. 1844.

Sir,

Your letter of the 26th June has been received. The certainty of encouraging the working of our own copper mines, consists in contracting with the mines for the necessary supplies of copper for coinage. I am not aware that it is possible to discriminate between planchets made of American pig copper and those made of English or Spanish Copper. One who is a worker of our mines can have no motive for substituting foreign copper in place of American Copper. You will therefore best consult the national interest by giving to the miners of our own Country the preference, instead of contracting with those who deal in imported copper and in American Copper.

With great respect

Yours, &amp;c

Wm. M. Pilsbry

Secretary of the Treasury

Mr. R. M. Patterson

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia

No. 17.

From / J. R. Jones Esq.

To / The Director of the Mint.

Rec<sup>d</sup> 16th.

Washington City, July 15. 1844.

Sir,

I am authorized and requested by Mr. Charles Bracken, of Wisconsin Territory, a miner and smelter of copper ore, to propose



for him, to furnish copper planchets for the Mint, by contract, for three years, at  $31\frac{3}{4}$  cents per pound.

Mr. P. being at present in Boston, you will please direct your answer to him at that place.

R. M. Patterson Esq.  
Director of the Mint

Very Respectfully,  
Yours  
J. B. Jones

No. 18.

From The Director of the Mint  
To J. B. Jones, Esq., Washington City.

Mint of the United States,  
July 16, 1844.

Sir,

I shall enter immediately into correspondence with Mr. Pracker, on the subject of the proposal which you have made, in your letter of yesterday, on his behalf and by his authority. So far as the price alone is concerned, the proposal is satisfactory, but there are, as you know, many other matters for consideration. It will probably be necessary that we have a personal interview.

To J. B. Jones, Esq. }  
Washington.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson  
Director.



No. 19.

From The Director of the Mint  
To The Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint of the United States,  
July 16, 1844.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive, yesterday, your letter of the 10th inst. respecting the propriety of obtaining the supplies of copper planchets needed for the coinage at the Mint, from the Mines of this metal in the United States. My letter to the Department, of the 19th ult., presents my views on this subject, and gives reasons, which must be deemed quite conclusive, why the proposal made by Mr. E. R. Jones, for supplying copper planchets, could not be accepted.

I have received to day, however, from the same source, a proposal which, so far as concerns the price alone, is unobjectionable. If the other terms were equally so, I will cheerfully enter into an arrangement for procuring planchets from the Wisconsin works; and, with this view, I shall immediately enter into correspondence with Mr. Charles Bracken, on whose behalf the proposal has been made.

I am quite aware, that, for the performance of the promise given by Mess. Crocker, Kim, & Co., to make our planchets of United States copper only, I can have no other assurance than the honor of the House itself.

To Hon. Geo. M. Fitch,  
Secretary of the Treasury

Very respectfully,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



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No 20.From The Director of the Mint  
To/ Charles Bracken Esq, Boston,  
Mass.Mint of the United States,  
Philadelphia, July 17, 1844.

Sir,

In a letter which I received yesterday, from J. B. Jones Esq, of Washington. He states that he had been "authorized and requested by you to propose, for you, to furnish copper planchets for the Mint, by contract, for three years, at  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cents per pound."

If this price is to be paid in copper coins, it is less by  $\frac{1}{4}$  ct per lb. than we at present pay; but if you expect payment in other funds it is more by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cents. The first question, therefore, in entering upon a negotiation, has regard to the kind of payment expected.

I must, secondly, state to you, that, for the price which we now pay, the planchets are delivered at the Mint, in good new kegs, holding a weight estimated to produce \$100 in cents; and that no charge is made for the kegs or the transportation.

Thirdly; as the supply needed by the Mint is altogether uncertain and variable, no contract can be made for any definite amount; but the planchets must be supplied on orders issued by the Director, from time to time.

Lastly; in none of the arrangements heretofore made, with houses either in Europe or America, has the Mint bound itself beyond the amount of each particular order; and I should not feel disposed to vary from this course without strong reasons to justify the change.

The house which at present supplies our planchets has engaged to make them, for the future, exclusively of copper.



from the Mines of the United States; but it is thought, that a contract with a mine and smelter of copper at Wisconsin would contribute more directly and certainly to the encouragement of our own mines. In our further negotiation this circumstance shall be kept in view, and be made to operate in your favor.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson  
Director

To/ Charles Bracken, Esq.

M. 21.

From/ Dr. Thomas Read Potts

To/ The Director of the Mint. Rec<sup>d</sup> July 27<sup>th</sup>.

Galena, April 26, 1844.

Dr. R. M. Patterson,

Dear Sir,

Although many years have passed since I last had the pleasure of seeing you, I take great pleasure in renewing our acquaintance by introducing to you friendly notice, Mr. Charles Bracken of Mineral Point. Mr. B. who is largely engaged in smelting Copper and Lead in Wisconsin Territory, visits the Eastern cities for the purpose of informing himself on all subjects connected with mining and the assay of metals; and knowing no one who is more competent than yourself to give him such information, I take the liberty of introducing him. He is, like ourselves, a Pennsylvanian, but has for a long time been a resident of the West, and you will



find him every way capable of giving you information about this country, which will be interesting.

Any attention and information you will afford Mr. Bracken will be appreciated by your friend and kinsman,  
Thos: Reed Potts.

No. 22.

From The Director of the Mint  
To Charles Bracken Esq,  
Merchant, Hotel, Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States,  
July 31 1844.

Dear Sir,

At the personal interviews which we have had together, the terms on which you offered to supply the Mint with copper planchets were the following:

The price to be  $31\frac{3}{4}$  cents per lb., payable in gold and silver or their equivalent.

The planchets to be made at the works of the Reverse Copper Company, at Boston.

To judge of those terms, I have had to compare them with the following on which our planchets are now supplied, and which, as to the prices, are the same as have existed for several years.

The price is 30 cents per lb., if paid in gold or silver, or their equivalent.

The price is 32 cents per lb. if paid



in copper coins

The planchets are made of copper from Mines in the United States.

The planchets are made at the works of Crocker, Brothers & Co., at Taunton, Massachusetts.

These terms are, as you see, much more advantageous than those which you offer, — particularly, the condition which admits payments in copper coins, by which the gain to the Mint is very considerable. I therefore feel that I could not be justified in accepting the terms which you have proposed.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson

J. Charles Crocker Esq.

No. 23.

From the Director of the Mint  
To the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint of the United States,  
August 1st, 1844.

Sir,

I have had two personal interviews with Charles Crocker Esq. of Wisconsin, relative to a contract for furnishing the Mint with copper planchets, and the essential items of the terms which he offered were the following.

The price to be  $3\frac{1}{4}$  cents per lb., payable in gold or silver, or their equivalent.

The planchets to be made of copper from mines in the United States.

The planchets to be made at the



works of the Revere Company at Boston.

To judge of these terms, I had to compare them with the following, on which our planchets are now supplied, and which, as to the prices, have not varied for several years.

The price is 30 cents per lb., if paid in gold or silver or their equivalent.

The price is 32 cents per lb., if paid in copper coins.

The planchets are made of copper from mines in the United States.

The planchets are made at the works of Crocker, Bros., & Co., at Taunton, Massachusetts.

It appears, then, that ~~while~~ the payments are made in the same manner, the price asked for planchets from the Boston works is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cents per lb., or nearly 6 per cent, more than is paid for those from the Taunton works. But it is the condition which admits payment in copper coins that is by far the most advantageous to the Mint, and this condition is declined by Mr. Bracken.

There is therefore but one motive remaining that could possibly justify me in making a contract with Mr. Bracken, and it is that which you have suggested in your letter of the 10th. ult., namely "the greater certainty of encouraging the working of our own copper mines, by contracting with the miners themselves for the necessary supplies of copper for coinage;" because "one who is a worker of our mines can have no motive for substituting foreign copper in place of American."



It will be observed, however, that, in both the cases, in question, the copper is to be furnished to us from New England factories, in each of which foreign, as well as United States copper, is largely employed. We are, therefore, still thrown upon the honesty of the Manufacturers as our only assurance that we are supplied with the kind of copper which he has pledged himself to furnish.

Under these circumstances, I have felt it to be my duty to decline the proposals made by Mr. Bracken, and I sincerely hope that my doing so may not meet with your disapprobation.

Very respectfully  
Your faithful servant  
R M Patterson  
Director

To Hon. Jas. M. Bibb,  
Sec. of Treasury

No. 24

From The Director of the Mint  
To Crocker, Bros., & Co.

Tacoma, Mass.

Mint of the United States,  
August 1, 1844.

Gentlemen,

You will please to send us ten tons of cent planchets, upon the same terms as heretofore, and including the more recent condition that they be manufactured of copper from mines in the United States. It may be well to send five tons as soon as they can be prepared, as our supply is nearly exhausted.



Will you do me the favor to inform me  
from what sources you are able to obtain  
your supplies of U.S. Copper.  
It is important for me to be able to  
show that you have the means of  
complying with your engagement to  
use this copper exclusively in making  
our planchets.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant

To Messrs. Crocker, Brewster & Co.  
Taunton, Mass.  
R. M. Patterson  
Director.

No. 25.

From/ Char. Bracken, Esq.

To/ The Director of the Mint.

Recd. 2d. Aug.

Merchants Hotel,

August 2d. 1844.

To/ Doct. R. M. Patterson  
Director of the Mint.

Sir,

By the advice  
of some friends in this city, who think that  
it would materially assist in developing  
the copper resources of Wisconsin, if  
it were known that, the Mint was supplied  
with Native Copper from the mines of  
that region, I have therefore concluded  
to propose to you to furnish the Mint with  
planchets for three years at the rate at  
which they are now furnished by Crocker  
& Brother & Co of Taunton Mass. That  
is at 32 Cts pr. Pound payable in



copper coins or Thirty Cents payable  
in gold or silver. The quantity required  
by you each year to be not more than  
75,000 pounds and not less than 35,000  
pounds.

Very Respectfully,  
Yours Obedt. Servt.,  
Charles Bracken.

P.S. As I am desirous of leaving  
the city to morrow evening I would  
be obliged to you for a prompt reply  
to this proposal.

C. B.

No. 26.

From the Director of the Mint  
To Charles Bracken, Esq.  
Merchant Hotel.

Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 22, 1844.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter of this morning, in which  
you make a new proposal for furnishing  
the Mint with copper planchets.

I yesterday gave an order for  
planchets, to Crocker, Bros., & Co.; and  
at the same time made a request for  
information essentially connected with  
the decision which I am called upon  
to make regarding the terms now offered  
by you. I have to regret, therefore,  
that I cannot give the prompt reply  
which you desire.

In the mean while, however,



it may be proper to state that the terms which you propose differ in two essential particulars from those of the Taunton House. These are, first, that they bind the Mint for a term of years; 2d. that they set minimum and maximum limits to amount to be furnished.

Very Respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

W. Charles Bracken, Esq.

No. 27.

From The Director of the Mint  
 To Messrs. Crocker, Brewster & Co.,  
 Taunton, Mass.

Mint of the United States,  
 Aug. 2, 1844.

Gentlemen, I write to urge an early reply to the request made of you in my letter of yesterday that you would inform me of the sources from which you are able to obtain your supplies of U.S. Copper, and that you would show me how a sufficient amount can be obtained to enable you to comply with your engagement to use that copper alone in the manufacture of our planchets.

I wish you also to inform me what is the lowest price, payable in gold & silver & their equivalents, at which you would be willing to furnish us with planchets.

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.



No 28.

From

Messrs. Crocker, Fro. & Taunton, Messrs.  
 To, The Director of the Mint, Rec<sup>d</sup> Aug. 5.

Taunton, Aug. 3, 1844.

R. M. Patterson, Esq.

Director of U.S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt  
 of your favor of the 1st, inst, and hasten  
 to reply thereto.

Immediately on your requesting  
 that the planchets should be made from  
 Coppe from U.S. Mines, we took measures  
 to secure the coppe for the purpose, and  
 purchased about 5 Tons, mined and  
 smelted by Mr. Charles Bracken (of  
 Helena Ark. we believe) which proved  
 to be of a inferior and spurious quality,  
 so much adulterated with Iron and  
 other substances that we were obliged  
 to return it to the merchants, Messrs.  
 Chandler, Howard & Co. Boston, of  
 whom we purchased it.

Owing to this disappointment  
 we have no planchets now on hand,  
 nor American Coppe from which to  
 make them at this moment, but are  
 now negotiating with another smelter  
 in the same region for a supply. -  
 We have ascertained that a small  
 and precarious supply is to be obtained  
 from our own mines, and that of a  
 quality much inferior to the South  
American.



26

Under these circumstances, we will make for you, if you wish us to do so, five or ten tons like those heretofore furnished and as soon as we can obtain American Coppe will manufacture the planchets from that as desired.

Awaiting your reply,

We remain

Yours

Very Respectfully,

Crocker, Wm. & Co.

No. 29.

From the Director of the Mint

To Messrs. Crocker, Wm. & Co.

Taunton, Mass.

Mint of the United States,

Aug. 6. 1844.

Sir,

I received yesterday

Your letter of the 3d. & have to thank you for the promptness & frankness with which you have answered my inquiries as to your means of procuring U.S. Coppe.

Under these circumstances, I find myself obliged to take the responsibility of ordering 5 tons of planchets of any such coppe as you can furnish. I wait your answer to my letter of the 2d. to determine whether your payment shall be made in coppe, or other money.

Very respectfully,

To Messrs. Crocker, Wm. & Co.

Taunton, Mass.

R. M. Patterson

Director.



No. 30.

From Mess. Crocker, T & Co.  
To The Director of the Mint.

Tuesday Aug 6

Mr. Patterson,

D. Sir,

Mr. T. L. C. is  
now in Philad. whether he has come  
on purpose to have an interview with  
you.

He is desirous to return this p. m.  
and would be much obliged for a  
half hour's attention.

Truly &amp;

Crocker, T &amp; Co.

No. 31.

From The Director of the Mint.  
To Mess. Crocker, T & Co

Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 12. 1844.

Gentlemen,

After my letter to you of  
the 6th. inst. was closed, and I had  
left the Mint, I received a note  
from you Mr. T. L. Crocker asking  
a personal interview, which I had the  
pleasure of giving. At this interview  
he explained the reasons which would  
prevent you from supplying the order of  
which we stand in immediate need  
with planchets made of U. S. Copper,  
while he expressed his conviction that for  
future orders, this condition could be



complied with.

He, at the same time, answered the question proposed in my letter of the 2d. by stating that your cash price for copper planchets would be 28 Cents.

It is now my wish that, of the five tons ordered in my letter of the 6th, (and to which I desire, for the present, to confine my order,) ~~XXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ fifteen kegs be at the cash price of 28 Cents per lb., and the remainder payable in copper coins as heretofore.

Our supply is reduced to three kegs, and I would be glad if you would send us the 15 kegs at least, at an early day.

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

Wm. Crocker & Co.  
 Auctioneers



1855

Mint of the United States.  
Aug. 16, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith  
a Report of the operations of the Mint  
and its Branches, for the month of  
July.

The package of assay coins, from  
Dahlgren, announced in your letter  
of the 14th, came safely to hand.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
Hon. Geo. M. Bibb  
Secretary of the Treasury.

U.S. Mint  
Capt. J. C. Corcoran  
from May 24 to Aug. 12,



186

Mint of the United States,  
Aug. 20, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed the official bond & oath of Mr. William Grisham, who has been appointed Clerk of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega, Geo., with a certificate annexed that "it is to my satisfaction"

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director.

Try

Wm. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



1847

Min't of the United States.  
Aug. 21, 1844.

Sir,

On the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., I had the honor  
to send to you a copy of a letter of the  
7<sup>th</sup>, from the Superintendent of the  
Branch Min't at Charlotte, respecting  
the destruction of the Min't building  
by fire. I now send, subjoined,  
an extract of another letter just re-  
ceived on the same subject.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. Genl. W. Bitt,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



188

Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 3. 1844.

Sir,

I had the honor to receive, this morning, your letter of the 31st ult., in which you give me authority to send a competent person to make the necessary examinations on which to found an estimate of the cost of restoring the Branch Mint at Charlotte, including the Machinery.

Under the authority thus granted, I have selected, for this mission, Mr. George Eckfeldt, Foreman of the Mint, an excellent machinist, and a worthy man, who has my entire confidence. He will set out for Charlotte at the earliest practicable day.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,  
Director

To,

Hon. George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Delivered to the free of

Sept. 22. 1844.



189

Minist. of the United States.

Philadelphia, Sept. 14, 1844.

Sir,

The Director's Clerk, Mr. George L. Quining, has determined, to my great regret, to leave his situation in the office, which he has filled for several years to my entire satisfaction, at the end of the present month.

Under the 3d Sect. of the Minist act of Jan. 18, 1837, the Clerks of the Minist are appointed by the Director, with the approbation of the President. I accordingly name, in the place about to be vacated, Mr. Robert Patterson of this City; and I most respectfully apply, through you,



you, to the President, for his approbation of this appointment.

As the place to be filled is in my own immediate department, and requiring a person who has my entire confidence, I hope that I need not apologize for naming my own son.

That the President may judge of Patterson's fitness for the situation, I will mention that he had a thorough college education at the University of Virginia, and afterwards received the highest honor in the Law Class in that institution of which he became a graduate. He subsequently began the practice of his profession in this City, with a degree of success which would have put the acceptance of a clerkship out of the question. But unhappily he has become afflicted with a hardness of hearing which has interrupted his professional career, and which now makes the situation of District Clerk very desirable to him.



As he has a good education, good  
 talents, and an unexceptionable personal  
 character, I have great confidence in  
 asking that the President will approve  
 of his appointment.

Very respectfully,  
 Your faithful servant,  
 R. M. Patterson,  
 Director.

To  
 Hon. George M. Bibb,  
 Secretary of the Treasury.



190

Mint of the United States.  
Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

Mr. James B. Longacre exhib-  
ited to me, this morning, his Com-  
mission as Engraver of the Mint, and  
showed me the honor to send enclosed  
his oath of Office. I was gratified  
to find that the vacant place had  
been given to a gentleman of such  
unexceptionable character.

With the Commission, there was  
sent a blank bond, (one of those pre-  
pared for the Branch mints,) which  
he was asked to execute, and to send  
to your Department. You will see,



however, by the 6th Sect. of the United States Act of Jan. 18, 1837, that no bond is required, by law, of the Treasurer of the United States; and, as neither bullion nor coins are ever brought under his trust, he is, in fact, under no official pecuniary responsibility. I have judged it right, therefore, that the bond should not be given without your special order.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant

P. M. Satterlee

Director.

To  
Hon. John C. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



194

Mint of the United States.  
October 2d, 1844.

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith  
the monthly report of the Mint Opera-  
tions for August.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Recd. at the  
Mint of the  
U. S. 27th Oct. 1844.



192

Minst of the United States.  
October 3d, 1844.

Sir, I had the honor to write to you, on the 14th ultimo, asking the approbation of the President of the United States, to a nomination which I made of a Director's Clerk, to succeed Mr. Geo. F. Dunning, whose wish it is to join his family in Maine. I presume that the action of the President was prevented by his absence from the seat of government. As I see it announced, however, that he has returned, I beg that I may be excused if I again ask respectfully to renew, through you, my application to the President, for his approval of the nomination made in my former letter.

With the highest respect,  
Your faithful servant,

R. M. Satterson,  
Director.

J. H. Pinckney Bitt,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



M<sup>r</sup> K

193

Min<sup>tr</sup> of the United States.  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst., regarding the nomination which I made of my son for the place of Director's Clerk. You inform me that the President had withheld his approval of this appointment, not from any personal objection, but under a general rule applied in similar cases of which you state examples. I yield cheerfully to this decision. Had I known the existence of the rule, I certainly should not have asked for an exception to it to be made in my favor; nor should I, under any circumstances, have thought of naming a son of mine for any

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst., regarding the nomination which I made of my son for the place of Director's Clerk. You inform me that the President had withheld his approval of this appointment, not from any personal objection, but under a general rule applied in similar cases of which you state examples. I yield cheerfully to this decision. Had I known the existence of the rule, I certainly should not have asked for an exception to it to be made in my favor; nor should I, under any circumstances, have thought of naming a son of mine for any



other clerkship in the United States  
so confidential and personal in its character.

I have been so fortunate as to prevail  
on my present clerk, Mr. Dunning, to  
abandon his intention of leaving the office  
and have given him permission to go to  
Maine, and bring back his family. He  
has been serving me, for seven years, so  
entirely to my satisfaction, that I now  
hope he will continue in his position as  
long as I retain mine.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

R. M. Patterson

Director

To Honble Geo. M. Bibb;  
Secretary of the Treasury.



194  
Oct. 8. 1844

My dear Sir;

If the vacancy in  
the Philadelphia Mint still  
continues I should be much  
gratified if Mr. Edwin F. Chap-  
man could obtain the place -  
He is a brother of Doctor Chap-  
man and his appointment  
would be very <sup>d.</sup>very suitable.

Yours W<sup>m</sup>

John Tyler

Judge Bibb



193

Mint of the United States.  
October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,  
I have the honor to send you herewith, a report of the operations of the Mint and Branches for the month of September.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



196

Mint of the United States.  
Nov. 5, 1844.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to your address, by the present mail, a case of dies, which I pray you to forward, as heretofore, under your frank, to the New Orleans Mint, according to the direction on the inner envelope.

Two more cases will be sent by the following mail.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Wm. George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



197

Mint of the United States  
Philadelphia, Nov. 16, 1844.

Sir,

This letter will be handed to you by Mr. Philas B. Tyler, Printer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans. He has been engaged here, during the suspension of operations, and for some time since their resumption, in superintending the construction of a new coinage press, very much needed in that institution. The work is now nearly completed, and he is about to return to the personal charge of his department, now entrusted to an able assistant.

All the officers of the New Orleans Mint have had the advantage of a visit to the Mint here, except the Superintendent, Mr. Kennedy; and both he and I have often had reason to regret that he has been deprived of the information which he would acquire by a personal inspection

Received of the  
 Mr. B. Tyler, 1844.



of the operations, arrangements, and modes of conducting business, at an institution where long experience has enabled us to introduce a high degree of order and perfection. Mr. Kennedy is prevented, as I understand, from making this visit, only by the circumstance that he cannot afford the expenditure which it would cost him. Now the other officers have the necessary expenses of their visits of instruction here paid out of the contingent appropriations of the Branch Office, with the consent of the Department. Let me ask, on the part of Mr. Kennedy, that you will allow to him the same advantage.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

W. M. Patterson.

S. J.

Wm. George Bitt, }  
Secretary of the Treasury }



198

Mint of the United States.  
November 19th, 1844.

Sir,  
I have the honor to present herewith  
the Monthly Mint report for October.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Honble Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



199

Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 21, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a report of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches, in the month of November last.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To,

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



208

Minut of the United States  
Nov. 25, 1844.

Sir, In a letter received this morning from Dr. Gibbon, Manager of the Branch Office at Charlotte, he mentions that you had said to him that if I would write to you that his presence in Philadelphia had been in any manner advantageous to the Office, you would authorize the payment of his absolute expenses to and from Charlotte and Philadelphia, (about \$150,) from the Contingent Expenses of the Branch Office."

I have, therefore, now to state my opinion, that Dr. Gibbon's visit was not without its advantages to the establishment with which he is connected, - from the information which he derived by an examination of our manner of conducting business, and from the suggestions which he was able to make relative to the plans with which we are occupied for the rebuilding of the Charlotte Office.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Wm. Powell Bill, Jr.  
Clerk of the Treasury

P. M. Patterson,  
Director



207

Mint of the United States.  
Dec. 3d, 1844.

Sir,  
I take the liberty of sending to your address, by the present mail, the first of series of dies of 1845, for the new-  
Mint. Other cases will be sent by the successive mails. I pray you to forward them under your frank as  
heretofore.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Wm. George C. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



203

Min't of the United States.  
Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1844.

Sir,

I ought to mention that of the  
cases of dies sent <sup>yesterday</sup> to be forwarded under  
your frank, one for Dahlonaga. The  
same is the case with the two sent to-day.  
The proper address will always be found  
on the inner envelope.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. W. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon<sup>ble</sup> George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



203

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14, 1841.

Sir,  
I have now the honor to reply to your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst., requesting me to furnish the Department, as early as may be, with an estimate of the cost of again placing the Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina, in a condition for resuming its operations.

From the officers of the Charlotte Mint, and from a special agent sent from here, with your approbation, to examine into the state of the machinery, I have obtained, as I believe, all the requisite information as to the amount of damage done by the fire which occurred on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July last.

Of the main building, it may be assumed that nothing is left that can be much available, except a portion of the materials, and perhaps of the old foundation. The Cat-buildings were all saved.

In the Department of the Superintendent and Treasurer, the coin, bullion, scale-frames, furniture, books, and papers were saved.



In the assay-department, and in the melting-room, but little injury was done.

In the separating-room, the destruction was more considerable; but all the losses of apparatus and material can be replaced without resort to any new appropriation.

In the Coiner's department, the steam engine was but slightly injured, and can be put into working order at a small cost. The shafting may be repaired, and also the housing and gearing of the rolls. — The diamond bench is so much injured that it will be prudent to replace it by a new one. — Of cutting-presses, one can be repaired, but the other must be replaced. — The coining-presses are past repair; but one new press will be quite sufficient for the work. — The milling machine and the rolls are destroyed.

In regard to the new building which it is proposed to erect, the Superintendent Mr. Caldwell, has suggested the advantage as well as the economy of confining it to one story above the basement. All the operations could be amply provided for in this arrangement, while they would be directly under the view of the officers, and the convenience and safety secured at the same



Having called for professional advice and assistance, I send you, herewith, plans of the proposed building, with full specifications, and a detailed estimate of the cost. The whole amount is \$25,000.

I also send estimates, in detail, of the cost of the new machinery which will be needed, and of the repairs required to the old; the whole amount of which is \$10,000.

The appropriation necessary "for placing the Branch Office at Charlotte in a condition for resuming its operations" is there-fore estimated at \$35,000.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Genl. B. Bibb, }  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



204

## Mint of the United States,

Dec. 27, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, in which you ask "Whether we can furnish \$50,000 in American gold coin for the payment of members of Congress, without embarrassing or delaying the operations of the Mint."

Of the Government deposits in the Mint, amounting all to \$204,960.94, the portion in gold is \$98,704.97.

There is, now, in the Treasurer's vault, in gold coins, \$62,000; of which there is due to depositors \$35,000, leaving free \$27,000. — There is, however, in the Coiners' hands, nearly ready for delivery to the Treasurer, \$43,000.

We could, therefore, furnish you with the amount of gold coins which you desire. But if this were done without any measure for restoring the present amount of our government deposits, the ability of the Mint to make prompt payment to depositors would be at an end. I have, on more than one occasion, complained to the Department of the reductions which have been made in our bullion fund. It is the capital upon which we operate, and it is already found inadequate when private deposits are at all abundant. The late Secretary of the Treasury drew \$100,000 from us, a year ago, to pay members of Congress,



and the amount has never been replaced, although application was made to him for this purpose. Allow me for an explanation of this matter to refer you to my letters to the Department of Dec. 3, 1842, & March 22, 1844, - particularly the former.

Now I shall be happy to supply you with the \$50,000 for which you apply, in new gold coins; but I must most earnestly beg that you will at the same time give a warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, under the 31st Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, for at least the same amount, (and it would be greatly to the advantage of our depositors if it were to double the amount payable at one of the Banks either in Philadelphia or New York. We should then ask the payment in foreign coins, & thus have our bullion fund restored.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

H. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



A.

Statement of Deposits and Coinage at the Mint of the United States, and Branches in the year 1844.

Deposits

| Mints.         | Gold          |           |          |         |           | Silver    |         |         |           |                  | Total |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|                | U.S. Coins    | Foreign   | U.S.     | Foreign | Total     | Foreign   | Foreign | U.S.    | Total     | Gold and Silver. |       |
|                | Old Standards | Coins     | Bullion  | Bullion |           | Coins     | Bullion | Bullion |           |                  |       |
|                | Dollars       | Dollars   | Dollars  | Dollars |           | Dollars   | Dollars | Dollars |           |                  |       |
| Charlotte N.C. |               |           | 167,348  |         | 167,348   |           |         |         |           | 167,348          |       |
| Atlanta Geo.   |               |           | 497,794  |         | 497,794   |           |         |         |           | 497,794          |       |
| New Orleans    | 7,042         | 2,956,874 | 25,036   | 14,224  | 3,033,176 | 1,241,628 | 18,300  |         | 1,259,928 | 4,293,104        |       |
| Philadelphia.  | 25,830        | 1,306,766 | 2,95,022 | 105,195 | 1,728,811 | 918,891   | 65,876  | 30,847  | 1,015,564 | 2,748,375        |       |
|                | 32,872        | 4,263,640 | 267,200  | 119,417 | 5,532,129 | 2,160,519 | 84,176  | 30,847  | 2,275,492 | 7,658,621        |       |

Coinage

| Mints.         | Gold    |         |         |           | Silver    |           |           |         |           | Copper    |           | Total  |           |           |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
|                | Eagles  | Half    | Quarter | Value     | Dollars   | Half      | Quarter   | Simes   | Half      | Value.    | Units     | Half   | Value.    | Number    |
|                |         | Eagles  | Eagles  |           |           | Dollars   | Dollars   |         | Simes     |           |           | Cents  |           |           |
|                | Pieces  | Pieces  | Pieces  |           | Pieces    | Pieces    | Pieces    | Pieces  | Pieces    | Dollars   | Pieces    | Pieces |           |           |
| Charlotte N.C. |         | 33,631  | 11,632  | 147,210   |           |           |           |         |           |           |           |        |           | 33,253    |
| Atlanta Geo.   |         | 88,982  | 17,332  | 488,600   |           |           |           |         |           |           |           |        |           | 106,314   |
| New Orleans    | 118,700 | 364,600 |         | 3,010,000 | 2,000,000 | 740,000   |           | 220,000 | 1,198,500 |           |           |        | 2,448,500 | 4,208,500 |
| Philadelphia.  | 6,361   | 340,370 | 6,784   | 1,782,420 | 20,000    | 1,762,000 | 421,300   | 72,500  | 430,000   | 1,037,050 | 2,398,752 |        | 2,291,52  | 5,462,967 |
|                | 125,061 | 877,553 | 35,738  | 5,128,930 | 20,000    | 3,774,000 | 1,161,300 | 72,500  | 650,000   | 2,235,550 | 2,398,752 |        | 2,398,752 | 9,057,834 |
|                |         |         |         |           |           |           |           |         |           |           |           |        |           | 7,687,767 |



(B)

Statement of the annual amounts of deposits of Gold for Coinage, at the Mint of the United States, and its Branches from Mines in the United States.

## Deposited at the United States Mint

## Deposited at the Branch Mint

## Mint &amp; Branches

| Virginia | North Carolina | South Carolina | Georgia   | Tennessee | Alabama | Various Princes | Total at U. S. Mint | Branch Mint at Charlotte, N. C. | Branch Mint at San Antonio, Tex. | Branch Mint at New Orleans | Total at the Branch Mints | Total deposits of U. S. Gold. |
|----------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dolls    | Dolls          | Dolls          | Dolls     | Dolls     | Dolls   | Dolls           | Dolls               | Dolls                           | Dolls                            | Dolls                      | Dolls                     | Dolls                         |
| "        | 5,000          | "              | "         | "         | "       | "               | 5,000               | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 5,000                         |
| "        | 17,000         | "              | "         | "         | "       | "               | 17,000              | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 17,000                        |
| "        | 20,000         | "              | "         | "         | "       | "               | 20,000              | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 20,000                        |
| "        | 21,000         | "              | "         | "         | "       | "               | 21,000              | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 21,000                        |
| "        | 46,000         | "              | "         | "         | "       | "               | 46,000              | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 46,000                        |
| 2500     | 134,000        | 3,500          | "         | "         | "       | "               | 140,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 140,000                       |
| 34,000   | 204,000        | 26,000         | 212,000   | "         | "       | "               | 466,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 466,000                       |
| 36,000   | 294,000        | 22,000         | 196,000   | 1,000     | "       | 1,000           | 520,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 520,000                       |
| 34,000   | 258,000        | 25,000         | 140,000   | 1,000     | "       | "               | 678,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 678,000                       |
| 140,000  | 275,000        | 66,000         | 216,000   | 7,000     | "       | "               | 868,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 868,000                       |
| 63,000   | 380,000        | 38,000         | 215,000   | 3,000     | "       | "               | 898,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 898,000                       |
| 60,400   | 263,500        | 212,400        | 319,900   | 100       | "       | 12,200          | 698,500             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 698,500                       |
| 62,000   | 148,100        | 55,200         | 201,400   | 300       | "       | "               | 467,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 467,000                       |
| 52,100   | 116,900        | 29,400         | 83,600    | "         | "       | "               | 282,000             | "                               | "                                | "                          | "                         | 282,000                       |
| 55,000   | 66,000         | 13,000         | 36,000    | 1,500     | "       | 200             | 171,700             | 127,000                         | 135,700                          | 700                        | 262,400                   | 435,100                       |
| 5,600    | 22,500         | 6,300          | 20,300    | 300       | 500     | "               | 133,500             | 126,536                         | 113,035                          | 6,869                      | 246,740                   | 385,240                       |
| 36,995   | 36,804         | 5,319          | 91,113    | 104       | 4,421   | "               | 176,749             | 124,726                         | 121,835                          | 2,835                      | 249,415                   | 426,185                       |
| 25,736   | 76,431         | 3,440          | 139,796   | 1,212     | 1,863   | "               | 248,478             | 129,847                         | 161,974                          | 1,818                      | 293,635                   | 542,117                       |
| 42,163   | 61,629         | 1,223          | 150,276   | "         | 5,579   | 13,717          | 273,587             | 174,508                         | 323,372                          | 5,630                      | 503,510                   | 777,097                       |
| 48,145   | 62,873         | 5,099          | 56,619    | 2,788     | 4,786   | 4,15            | 180,728             | 272,064                         | 570,080                          | 22,573                     | 864,717                   | 1,045,445                     |
| 1849     | 41,555         | 194,917        | 11,856    | 30,739    | 2,240   | 12,298          | 2377                | 295,022                         | 167,348                          | 479,794                    | 25,036                    | 672,178                       |
| 735,333  | 3,134,634      | 372,737        | 2,288,743 | 20,544    | 29,457  | 29,909          | 6,611,281           | 1,122,329                       | 1,908,813                        | 65,461                     | 3,093,603                 | 9,704,884                     |



## D.

Coinage of the mint of the United States in the several years from its establishment in 1792, and including the coinage of the branch mints from the commencement of their operations, in 1838.

| Years. | GOLD.         | SILVER.       | COPPER.      | WHOLE COINAGE. |                |
|--------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|        | Value.        | Value.        | Value.       | No. of pieces. | Value.         |
| 1793   |               |               |              |                |                |
| 1794   | \$71,485 00   | \$370,683 80  | \$11,373 00  | 1,834,420      | \$453,541 80   |
| 1795   |               |               |              |                |                |
| 1796   | 102,727 50    | 79,077 50     | 10,324 40    | 1,219,370      | 192,129 40     |
| 1797   | 103,422 50    | 12,591 45     | 9,510 34     | 1,095,165      | 125,534 29     |
| 1798   | 205,610 00    | 330,291 00    | 9,797 00     | 1,368,241      | 545,695 00     |
| 1799   | 213,285 00    | 423,515 00    | 9,106 68     | 1,365,681      | 645,906 68     |
| 1800   | 317,760 00    | 224,296 00    | 29,279 40    | 3,337,972      | 571,335 40     |
| 1801   | 422,570 00    | 74,758 00     | 13,628 37    | 1,571,390      | 540,956 37     |
| 1802   | 423,310 00    | 58,343 00     | 34,422 83    | 3,615,869      | 516,075 83     |
| 1803   | 258,377 50    | 87,118 00     | 25,203 03    | 2,780,830      | 370,698 53     |
| 1804   | 258,642 50    | 100,340 50    | 12,844 94    | 2,046,839      | 371,827 94     |
| 1805   | 170,367 50    | 149,388 50    | 13,483 48    | 2,260,361      | 333,239 48     |
| 1806   | 324,505 00    | 471,319 00    | 5,260 00     | 1,815,409      | 801,064 00     |
| 1807   | 437,495 00    | 597,448 75    | 9,652 21     | 2,731,345      | 1,044,595 96   |
| 1808   | 284,665 00    | 684,300 00    | 13,090 00    | 2,935,883      | 932,055 00     |
| 1809   | 169,375 00    | 707,376 00    | 8,001 53     | 2,861,834      | 884,752 53     |
| 1810   | 501,435 00    | 638,773 50    | 15,660 00    | 3,056,418      | 1,155,868 50   |
| 1811   | 497,905 00    | 608,340 00    | 2,495 95     | 1,649,570      | 1,108,740 95   |
| 1812   | 290,435 00    | 814,029 50    | 10,755 00    | 2,761,646      | 1,115,219 50   |
| 1813   | 477,140 00    | 620,951 50    | 4,180 00     | 1,755,331      | 1,102,271 50   |
| 1814   | 77,370 00     | 561,687 50    | 3,578 30     | 1,833,859      | 642,535 80     |
| 1815   | 3,175 00      | 17,308 00     | -            | 69,867         | 20,483 00      |
| 1816   | -             | 23,575 75     | 28,209 82    | 2,888,135      | 56,785 57      |
| 1817   | -             | 607,783 50    | 39,484 00    | 5,163,967      | 647,267 50     |
| 1818   | 242,940 00    | 1,070,454 50  | 31,670 00    | 5,537,084      | 1,345,064 50   |
| 1819   | 258,615 00    | 1,140,000 00  | 26,710 00    | 5,074,723      | 1,425,325 00   |
| 1820   | 1,319,030 00  | 501,680 70    | 44,075 50    | 6,492,509      | 1,864,786 20   |
| 1821   | 189,325 00    | 825,762 45    | 3,890 00     | 3,139,249      | 1,018,977 45   |
| 1822   | 88,990 00     | 805,806 50    | 20,723 39    | 3,813,788      | 915,509 89     |
| 1823   | 72,425 00     | 895,550 00    | -            | 2,166,485      | 967,975 00     |
| 1824   | 93,200 00     | 1,752,477 00  | 12,620 00    | 4,786,894      | 1,858,297 00   |
| 1825   | 156,385 00    | 1,564,583 00  | 14,926 00    | 5,178,760      | 1,735,894 00   |
| 1826   | 92,245 00     | 2,002,090 00  | 16,344 25    | 5,774,454      | 2,110,679 25   |
| 1827   | 131,565 00    | 2,869,200 00  | 23,577 32    | 9,097,845      | 3,024,342 32   |
| 1828   | 140,145 00    | 1,575,600 00  | 25,636 24    | 6,196,853      | 1,741,381 24   |
| 1829   | 295,717 50    | 1,994,578 00  | 16,580 00    | 7,674,501      | 2,306,875 50   |
| 1830   | 643,105 00    | 2,495,400 00  | 17,115 00    | 8,357,191      | 3,155,620 00   |
| 1831   | 714,270 00    | 3,175,600 00  | 33,603 60    | 11,792,284     | 3,923,473 60   |
| 1832   | 798,435 00    | 2,579,000 00  | 23,620 00    | 9,128,387      | 3,401,055 00   |
| 1833   | 978,550 00    | 2,759,000 00  | 28,160 00    | 10,307,790     | 3,765,710 00   |
| 1834   | 3,954,270 00  | 3,415,002 00  | 19,151 00    | 11,637,643     | 7,388,423 00   |
| 1835   | 2,186,175 00  | 3,443,003 00  | 39,489 00    | 15,996,342     | 5,668,667 00   |
| 1836   | 4,135,700 00  | 3,606,100 00  | 23,100 00    | 13,719,333     | 7,764,900 00   |
| 1837   | 1,148,305 00  | 2,096,010 00  | 55,583 00    | 13,010,721     | 3,299,898 00   |
| 1838   | 1,809,595 00  | 2,333,243 00  | 63,702 00    | 15,780,311     | 4,206,540 00   |
| 1839   | 1,355,885 00  | 2,189,296 00  | 31,286 61    | 11,811,594     | 3,576,457 61   |
| 1840   | 1,675,302 50  | 1,726,703 00  | 24,627 00    | 10,558,240     | 3,426,632 50   |
| 1841   | 1,091,597 50  | 1,132,750 00  | 15,973 67    | 8,811,968      | 2,240,321 17   |
| 1842   | 1,834,170 50  | 2,332,750 00  | 23,833 90    | 11,743,153     | 4,190,754 40   |
| 1843   | 8,108,797 50  | 3,634,750 00  | 24,283 20    | 14,640,582     | 11,967,830 70  |
| 1844   | 5,428,230.00  | 2,235,550.00  | 23,987.52    | 9,051,834      | 7,627,767.52   |
| Total  | 44,553,912.00 | 64,620,234.90 | 1,003,608.48 | 243,249,905    | 110,177,761.38 |

exhaust their appropriations, & leave no balance. The above balance will therefore be entirely applicable to the Coinage, House, and Office expenses of the following year. The appropriations for these



Grounds of the Estimates for the Expenses of the Mint at Philadelphia, for the half-year ending June 30, 1843, and for the year ending June 30, 1844.

|                                                                                                                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Balance to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. States, Sept. 30, 1842, available funds in the Treasurer's hands, as per Ordinary Ledger, | \$ 10,347. |
| Profits on Copper transferred to the Ordinary Fund since Sept. 30, 1842,                                                                   | 1,980.     |
| Balance to credit of Profit & Loss, Dec. 31, 42, (estimated)                                                                               | 2,250.     |
| Appropriations for 1842 undrawn,                                                                                                           | 28,000.    |
| Funds available for 4th quarter of 1842,                                                                                                   | \$ 42,577. |
| Deduct probable expenses in 4th qr. 1842, viz:                                                                                             |            |
| Salaries of Officers & Clerks,                                                                                                             | \$ 4,800.  |
| Wages of Workmen,                                                                                                                          | 5,900.     |
| Coinage expenses, (including Wastage for the year)                                                                                         | 7,715.     |
| House expenses,                                                                                                                            | 1,919.     |
| Office expenses,                                                                                                                           | 166.       |
| Specimens of Ores & Coins                                                                                                                  | 200.       |
|                                                                                                                                            | 20,700.    |
| Probable balance, Dec. 31, 1842,                                                                                                           | \$ 21,877. |

The items of Salaries, Wages, & Specimens of Ores & Coins, will exhaust their appropriations, & leave no balance. The above balance will therefore be entirely applicable to the Coinage, House, and Office expenses of the following year. The appropriations for these



items for 1842, were as follows:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| For Coinage Expenses, | \$15,200.   |
| For House Expenses,   | 4,000.      |
| For Office Expenses   | <u>600.</u> |

which, according to the foregoing statement, will remain untouched, & be available for 1843, with an additional sum of

Making available for 1843, the foregoing balance of

Dividing this in the proportion of the appropriations for 1842, as above, we have:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| For Coinage Expenses, | \$16,794.   |
| " House Expenses,     | 4,420.      |
| " Office Expenses,    | <u>663.</u> |

The whole amount of expenditure in 1842 may be set down at \$64,000; and the Coinage will probably exceed two millions. We anticipate a heavier coinage in 1843 & 44; and we therefore estimate as the expenses of the half-year ending June 30, 1843,

And of the year ending June 30, 1844,

Deducting therefrom

|                                                 |                |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Profits on Copper for 18 months, (estimated) | \$6,000.       |
| 2. Credit Balance of Profit & Loss, do. (do.)   | 3,750.         |
| 3. Balance Dec. 31, 1842, as above,             | <u>21,877.</u> |

There remains to be asked for the expenses of the half-year ending June 30, 1843, per estimates,

And for the Year ending June 30, 1844, " do.



The propriety of the estimates will appear from the following tabular statement:

Statement showing first, - Estimated expenditures of the half year ending June 30, 1843, - the balances from 1842 & the funds accruing in said half year, - the appropriations needed, - & the balances which will be available in the following year: secondly, the same for the year ending June 30, 1844.

| Items of Appropriation. | Half year ending June 30, 1843.        |                                                      |                                                  |                                                      | Year ending June 30, 1844.             |                                           |                                              |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|                         | Estimated expenditures in this period. | Balances from 1842, & funds accruing in this period. | Appropriations needed to cover the expenditures. | Balances available in the year ending June 30, 1844. | Estimated expenditures in this period. | Balances & funds accruing in this period. | Appropriations needed to cover expenditures. |
| Salaries,               | \$9,600.                               | 000                                                  | \$9,600                                          | 000                                                  | \$19,200                               | 000                                       | \$19,200                                     |
| Wages,                  | 12,000.                                | 000                                                  | 12,000                                           | 000                                                  | 24,000                                 | 000                                       | 24,000                                       |
| Res & Coins,            | 300.                                   | 000                                                  | 300                                              | 000                                                  | 300                                    | 000                                       | 300                                          |
| Image Expenses,         | 10,057.                                | \$19,284                                             | 000                                              | \$9,227                                              | 20,344                                 | \$14,217                                  | 6,127                                        |
| Other Expenses,         | 2,646.                                 | 5,077                                                | 000                                              | 2,431                                                | 5,353                                  | 3,744                                     | 1,609                                        |
| Office Expenses,        | 397.                                   | 766                                                  | 000                                              | 369                                                  | 803                                    | 566                                       | 237                                          |
|                         | \$35,000                               | \$25,127                                             | \$21,900                                         | \$12,027                                             | \$70,000                               | \$18,527                                  | \$51,473                                     |

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 10. 1842.



An Estimate of the Expenses of the Mint at Philadelphia for the year ending June 30. 1844.

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:

|                                                 |          |           |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| The Director,                                   | \$3,500. |           |
| The Treasurer,                                  | 2,000.   |           |
| The Chief-Coiner,                               | 2,000.   |           |
| The Assayer                                     | 2,000.   |           |
| The Melter & Refiner,                           | 2,000.   |           |
| The Engraver,                                   | 2,000.   |           |
| The Assistant Assayer,                          | 1,300.   |           |
| One Clerk \$1200, Two \$1100 each, One \$1000., | 4,400.   | \$19,200. |

|                       |  |         |
|-----------------------|--|---------|
| For Wages of Workmen, |  | 24,000. |
|-----------------------|--|---------|

|                                                                                                                                     |          |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|
| For Coinage-expenses, including Materials & implements, fuel, new machinery repairs of old, die-making, & Wastage of Gold & Silver, | \$6,127. |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|

|                                                                                           |        |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--|
| For House-expenses, including Water-rent & taxes, repairs, lighting, cleaning & Watering, | 1,609. |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--|

|                                                                      |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------|
| For Office-expenses, including Stationery, Postage, & One newspaper, | 237. | 7,973. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------|

|                                                            |  |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--|------|
| For Specimens of Ores & Coins, to be received at the Mint, |  | 300. |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--|------|

\$51,473.



Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 6th, 1845.

Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d inst., and, in reply to it, I have to state, first, - that the officers of the Branch Mint at Charlotte still continue to hold their commissions and to receive their salaries; and that, at my last advice on the subject, the workmen, not exceeding four in number, were still employed about the establishment, and received wages.

The question of the propriety of discontinuing the offices should, in my judgment, be made to depend upon the action of Congress with regard to the proposed measure of again putting the Mint in operation. I know that the Assayer and Coiner depend upon their present salaries for the support of themselves and their families. If this resource should be cut off, it would be necessary for these gentlemen to seek other employment.



Mint of the United States,  
Jan. 5th, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d inst., and, in reply to it, I have to state, first, - that the Officers of the Branch Mint at Charlotte still continue to hold their commissions and to receive their salaries; and that, at my last advices on the subject, the workmen, not exceeding four in number, were still employed about the establishment, and received wages.

The question of the propriety of discontinuing the Offices should, in my judgment, be made to depend upon the action of Congress with regard to the proposed measure of again putting the Mint in operation. I know that the Assayer and Coiner depend upon their present salaries for the support of themselves and their families. If this resource should be cut off, it would be necessary for these gentlemen to seek other employment,



and, no doubt, in other places. Now, the  
could there be any certainty of com-  
manding their services, - rendered pecu-  
arly valuable by their skill and experience  
when these services may be required?  
They appear to me to be in the position  
officers of the Army or Navy, who, though  
not actually employed, are held under  
orders.

But, if it be determined that the  
Charlotte Mint shall be again rebuilt  
set in operation, the officers can immedi-  
ately make themselves useful, - and par-  
ticularly the Superintendent, under whose  
immediate charge the work ought, in my  
opinion, to be placed, and not, as before,  
in the hands of a Special Commissioner.  
The Coiner, too, would be of almost indis-  
pensable service, in setting up and put-  
ting into action the new machinery;  
analogous duties would be required of  
the Assayer in his department. If, then,  
the Mint is to be restored, I think it  
would be impolitic to interrupt its  
present official organization.

I have been informed, by the Super-  
intendent, that the workmen have



usefully employed, in removing rubbish,  
and in other necessary labors about the  
building, and in guarding the premises.  
I do not know whether they are all  
still needed for such services, or, indeed,  
whether they are all still under pay. If,  
however, the building and machinery are  
to be restored, it is certain that these  
men could be at once made very use-  
ful.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Truf  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Minist of the United States  
January 8th 1845.

Sir, When, on the 16th of November last, I sent to the Department the estimate for the Mint and Branches for the fiscal year 1845-46, I mentioned that I had not received the grounds of the estimate presented to me by the New Orleans Branch. I have since received this document from the Treasurer, and revised it, with the Superintendent, on his late visit here. I am, therefore, now enabled to lay it before you.

It requires a slight modification in one of the items of the estimate heretofore presented, as it justifies a reduction of the estimate for Contingent Expenses from \$28,000, to \$27,350. I send you therefore a new Estimate with this correction.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb  
Secy of the Treasury



Mint of the United States.  
June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending, by the present mail, the first of a series of eight sets of dies, to be forwarded to the Branch Mint at New Orleans, under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To/  
Hon. P. S. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

P.S. I do not include, in this series of eight, the one announced in my letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst.



Min't of the United States.  
Jan. 11, 1845.

Dr.

I have the honor to send enclosed  
my monthly report of the operations  
of the Mint and Branches for December.

I hope to be able to present my annual report on Monday.

Very respectfully,

Yours faithful Servant,

A. W. Patterson,

Director

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Felt  
I am glad to hear  
of your success at the  
New Bedford Fair.



Mint of the United States,  
Philadelphia, January 14, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to lay before you the following report of the operations of the Mint and Branch Mints during the past year.

The coinage at the principal Mint amounted to \$2,843,457; comprising \$1,782,420 in gold, \$1,037,050 in silver, and \$23,987 in copper coins, and composed of 5,461,967 pieces. The depositors of gold, within the year, amounted to \$1,732,811, and those of silver to \$1,015,564.

At the New Orleans Branch Mint, the coinage amounted to \$4,208,500; comprising \$3,010,000 in gold, and \$1,198,500 in silver coins, and composed of 3,448,300 pieces. The depositors for coinage amounted to \$3,003,176 in gold, and \$1,259,928 in silver.

The Branch Mint at Dahlonega received, during the year, deposits of gold to the value of \$479,794, and its coinage



amounted to \$488,600, composed of 88,900 half-eagles, and 17,332 quarter-eagles.

The Branch Mint at Charlotte had received deposits of gold to the value of \$157,348, and executed coinage to the amount of \$147,210, when, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July, the operations were arrested by the occurrence of a fire, which destroyed the Mint building, and a great part of the machinery. The question of rebuilding this establishment has been brought before Congress, and plans and estimates have been presented which show the moderate cost at which it could be again placed in full operation. I will therefore, merely take the liberty, at this time, to call attention to the fact, which, although it has long lost its novelty, still presents itself as an object of national interest, that the region in which the Charlotte and Dahlouga Branch Mints are placed contains gold mines as numerous and as rich as any in the world. They are, indeed, less productive, at present, than some of these, in consequence of the more profitable employment of labor in other branches of industry; and it is worthy of note, that, in the count-



of the last two years, more than two millions of dollars worth of gold was offered for coinage from this source alone; so that, doubtless, the production of the United States has not been exceeded by that of any other gold mining country, excepting Siberian Russia, and perhaps the Western Coast of Africa.

The subjoined tables embrace many details of interest respecting the operations of the several Mints; and show, in particular, that the coinage of 1854, in the whole Mint establishment, which is \$7,687,757, rivals in amount that of any previous year except the last.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
with great respect,  
your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint.

The President  
of the United States.



Mint of the United States  
January 14<sup>th</sup> 1840

Sir,

As the Annual Assay at the Mint is to be made on the 10<sup>th</sup> of next month, I have the honor respectfully to request that you will ask the attention of the President to the appointment of the additional Commissioners provided for by the 32<sup>d</sup> section of the act of January 18, 1837.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Wm. B. George M. Bibb  
Secretary of the Treasury



(Private.)

214

Mint of the United States  
January 14, 1845.

Sir,

I send you an official letter to ask that the President will appoint the Commissioner for the approaching annual assay, whom he is authorised by law to designate in addition to the District Judge, the District Attorney, and the Collector of the Port, - the Commissioner *ex-officio*.

As it has always been the practice of the Director of the Mint, to suggest the names of individuals whom he thinks proper to be selected for this occasion, I beg leave most respectfully to present the following to the consideration of the President.

*J. S. Silliman*  
Professor Benjamin Silliman, of Yale College: a philosopher of the most distinguished scientific reputation.

General George Cadwalader of Philadelphia: a gentleman whose high standing is known to the President.

Samuel A. Beebe, of New York, the head of the houses in that City and Philadelphia which have for some years furnished the largest portion of the bullion coined at our Mint. The Amount which they deposited in the year 1843 alone, exceeded



three millions.

I would be much gratified if the President would permit me to suggest to him a fourth name - that of Robert Tyler Esq. - We would be happy to have him as one of the witnesses of the accuracy of the processes of the several Mints.

As it is important that I communicate certain notices and information to the gentlemen selected, allow me respectfully to ask that a letter of appointment be sent to me to be forwarded as has been always done, heretofore, except this year.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> George M. Pitt  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington  
D.C.



215

Min't of the United States  
January 15, 1845.

Sir, In a letter which I wrote to you yesterday, I presented the name of Professor Silliman as one of the Commissioners to attend the next Annual Assay at the Mint. I have since learned that he is engaged in delivering a course of lectures at New Orleans, and that, in consequence, his services cannot be commanded.

I hope that some name, to replace his, may occur to the President or to yourself; but, if not, I take the liberty of suggesting that of Professor Julius Ducatel, of Baltimore, — a gentleman distinguished as a Chemist, Geologist, and man of general science.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,  
R. M. Patterson.

To Hon. Jos. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 14, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith, a copy of my Annual Report on the operations of the Mint and Branches, the original of which is sent to the President by the same mail.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

D. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



(Copy)

247.

Mint of the United States,  
Philadelphia, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to lay before you the following report of the operations of the Mint and Branch Mints during the past year.

The Coinage at the principal Mint amounted to \$2,843,457; comprising \$1,782,420 in gold, \$1,037,050 in silver, and \$23,987 in copper coins, and composed of 5,461,967 pieces. The deposits of gold, within the year, amounted to \$1,732,811, and those of silver to \$1,015,564.

At the New Orleans Branch Mint, the Coinage amounted to \$4,208,500; comprising \$3,050,000 in gold, and \$1,198,500 in silver coins, and composed of 3,448,300 pieces. The deposits for coinage amounted to \$3,003,176 in gold, and \$1,259,928 in silver.

The Branch Mint at Sacktonaga received, during the year, deposits of gold to the value of \$479,794, and its Coinage amounted to \$488,600, composed of 88,982 half-eagles and 17,332 quarter-eagles.



The Branch Mint at Charlotte had received deposits of gold to the amount of \$167,348, and given coinage to the value of \$147,210, when, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup>, the operations were arrested by the occurrence of a fire which destroyed the Mint building, and a great part of the machinery. The question of rebuilding this establishment has been brought before Congress, and plans and estimates have been presented which show the moderate cost at which it could be again placed in full operation. I will, therefore, merely take liberty, at this time, to call attention to the fact, which although it has long lost its novelty, still presents itself as an object of national interest, that the regions which the Charlotte and Dahlonega Branch Mints are placed contain gold mines as numerous and as rich as any in the world. They are, indeed, less productive, at present, than some of them, in consequence of the more profitable employment of labor in other branches of industry; yet it is worthy of note, that, in the course of the last two years, more than two millions of dollars worth of gold was afforded for coinage from this source alone; so that, in the production of the United States, has not been exceeded by that of any other gold mining country except Siberian Russia, and perhaps the Western Coast of Africa.



The Subjoined table ~~(A.B.C.D.)~~ embrace many details  
of interest respecting the operations of the several  
Mints; and show, in particular, that the Coinage  
of 1844, in the whole Mint establishment, which  
is \$7,687,767, rivals in amount that of any  
previous year except the last.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
with great respect,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint.

The President  
of the United States.



Year — 1844.

| DEPOSITES.       |                               |                   |                   |                     |           |                   |                     |                   |           |                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Mints.           | Gold.                         |                   |                   |                     |           | Silver.           |                     |                   |           | Total.              |
|                  | U. S. Coins,<br>Old Standard. | Foreign<br>Coins. | U. S.<br>Bullion. | Foreign<br>Bullion. | TOTAL.    | Foreign<br>Coins. | Foreign<br>Bullion. | U. S.<br>Bullion. | TOTAL.    | Gold and<br>Silver. |
|                  | Dollars.                      | Dollars.          | Dollars.          | Dollars.            | Dollars.  | Dollars.          | Dollars.            | Dollars.          | Dollars.  | Dollars.            |
|                  |                               |                   |                   |                     |           |                   |                     |                   |           |                     |
| Charlotte, N. C. |                               |                   | 167,348           |                     | 167,348   |                   |                     |                   |           | 167,348             |
| Dahlonega, Geo.  |                               |                   | 479,794           |                     | 479,794   |                   |                     |                   |           | 479,794             |
| New Orleans,     | 7,042                         | 2,956,874         | 25,036            | 14,224              | 3,003,176 | 1,244,628         | 18,300              |                   | 1,259,928 | 4,263,104           |
| Philadelphia,    | 25,830                        | 1,306,766         | 295,022           | 105,193             | 1,732,811 | 918,891           | 65,876              | 30,847            | 1,015,564 | 2,748,375           |
|                  | 32,872                        | 4,263,640         | 967,200           | 119,417             | 5,383,129 | 2,160,519         | 84,176              | 30,847            | 2,275,492 | 7,658,621           |

| Mints.           | COINAGE. |                 |                    |           |          |                  |                     |         |                |           |           |                |             |           |              |
|------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
|                  | Gold.    |                 |                    |           | Silver.  |                  |                     |         |                |           | Copper.   |                |             | Total.    |              |
|                  | Eagles.  | Half<br>eagles. | Quarter<br>eagles. | Value.    | Dollars. | Half<br>dollars. | Quarter<br>dollars. | Dimes.  | Half<br>dimes. | Value.    | Cents.    | Half<br>cents. | Value.      | Number.   | Value.       |
|                  | Pieces.  | Pieces.         | Pieces.            | Dollars.  | Pieces.  | Pieces.          | Pieces.             | Pieces. | Pieces.        | Dollars.  | Pieces.   | Pieces.        | Dolls. Cts. | Pieces.   | Dolls. Cts.  |
| Charlotte, N. C. |          | 23,631          | 11,622             | 147,210   |          |                  |                     |         |                |           |           |                |             | 35,253    | 147,210      |
| Dahlonega, Geo.  |          | 88,982          | 17,332             | 488,600   |          |                  |                     |         |                |           |           |                |             | 106,311   | 488,600      |
| New Orleans,     | 118,700  | 364,600         |                    | 3,610,000 |          | 2,005,000        | 740,000             |         | 220,000        | 1,195,500 |           |                |             | 3,448,300 | 4,208,500    |
| Philadelphia,    | 6,361    | 340,370         | 6,784              | 1,782,420 | 20,000   | 1,766,000        | 421,200             | 72,500  | 430,000        | 1,037,050 | 2,398,752 |                | 23,987.52   | 5,461,967 | 2,843,457.52 |
|                  | 125,061  | 817,583         | 35,738             | 5,428,230 | 20,000   | 3,771,000        | 1,161,200           | 72,500  | 650,000        | 2,235,550 | 2,398,752 |                | 23,987.52   | 9,051,834 | 7,687,767.52 |



## B.

*Statement of the annual amounts of deposits of gold, for coinage, at the mint of the United States and its branches, from mines in the United States.*

| Periods. | Deposited at the United States mint. |                 |                 |           |            |          |                  |                          | Deposited at the branch mints.  |                               |                            |                            | Mint and branches.            |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|          | Virginia.                            | North Carolina. | South Carolina. | Georgia.  | Tennessee. | Alabama. | Various sources. | Total at the U. S. mint. | Branch mint at Charlotte, N. C. | Branch mint at Dahlonega, Ga. | Br'ch mint at New Orleans. | Total at the branch mints. | Total deposits of U. S. gold. |
| 1824     | -                                    | \$5,000         | -               | -         | -          | -        | -                | \$5,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | \$5,000                       |
| 1825     | -                                    | 17,000          | -               | -         | -          | -        | -                | 17,000                   | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 17,000                        |
| 1826     | -                                    | 20,000          | -               | -         | -          | -        | -                | 20,000                   | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 20,000                        |
| 1827     | -                                    | 21,000          | -               | -         | -          | -        | -                | 21,000                   | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 21,000                        |
| 1828     | -                                    | 46,000          | -               | -         | -          | -        | -                | 46,000                   | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 46,000                        |
| 1829     | \$2,500                              | 134,000         | \$3,500         | -         | -          | -        | -                | 140,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 140,000                       |
| 1830     | 24,000                               | 204,000         | 26,000          | 212,000   | -          | -        | -                | 466,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 466,000                       |
| 1831     | 26,000                               | 294,000         | 22,000          | 176,000   | \$1,000    | -        | \$1,000          | 520,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 520,000                       |
| 1832     | 34,000                               | 458,000         | 45,000          | 140,000   | 1,000      | -        | -                | 678,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 678,000                       |
| 1833     | 104,000                              | 475,000         | 66,000          | 216,000   | 7,000      | -        | -                | 868,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 868,000                       |
| 1834     | 62,000                               | 380,000         | 38,000          | 415,000   | 3,000      | -        | -                | 898,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 898,000                       |
| 1835     | 60,400                               | 263,500         | 42,400          | 319,900   | 100        | -        | 12,200           | 698,500                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 698,500                       |
| 1836     | 62,000                               | 148,100         | 55,200          | 201,400   | 300        | -        | -                | 467,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 467,000                       |
| 1837     | 52,100                               | 116,900         | 29,400          | 83,600    | -          | -        | -                | 282,000                  | -                               | -                             | -                          | -                          | 282,000                       |
| 1838     | 55,000                               | 66,000          | 13,000          | 36,000    | 1,500      | -        | 200              | 171,700                  | \$127,000                       | \$135,700                     | \$700                      | \$263,400                  | 435,100                       |
| 1839     | 57,600                               | 53,500          | 6,300           | 20,300    | 300        | \$500    | -                | 138,500                  | 126,836                         | 113,035                       | 6,869                      | 246,740                    | 385,240                       |
| 1840     | 38,995                               | 36,804          | 5,319           | 91,113    | 104        | 4,431    | -                | 176,766                  | 124,726                         | 121,858                       | 2,835                      | 249,419                    | 426,185                       |
| 1841     | 25,736                               | 76,431          | 3,440           | 139,796   | 1,212      | 1,863    | -                | 248,478                  | 129,847                         | 161,974                       | 1,818                      | 293,639                    | 542,117                       |
| 1842     | 42,163                               | 61,629          | 223             | 150,276   | -          | 5,579    | 13,717           | 273,587                  | 174,508                         | 323,372                       | 5,630                      | 503,510                    | 777,097                       |
| 1843     | 48,148                               | 62,873          | 5,099           | 56,619    | 2,788      | 4,786    | 415              | 180,728                  | 272,064                         | 570,080                       | 22,573                     | 864,717                    | 1,045,445                     |
| 1844     | 40,595                               | 194,917         | 11,856          | 30,739    | 2,240      | 12,298   | 2,377            | 295,022                  | 167,348                         | 479,794                       | 25,036                     | 672,178                    | 967,200                       |
|          | 735,237                              | 3,134,654       | 372,737         | 2,288,743 | 20,544     | 29,457   | 24,909           | 6,611,281                | 1,112,329                       | 1,905,813                     | 65,461                     | 3,093,603                  | 9,704,884                     |



of the Amounts Received annually at the Branch Mint from the commencement of their operations until Dec 31, 1844.

| C.<br>Periods | Gold    |            |               |               |           | Silver      |                |           |           |                 | Total.        |            |
|---------------|---------|------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|------------|
|               | Eagle   | Half-Eagle | Quarter-Eagle | Total of Gold |           | Half-Dollar | Quarter-Dollar | Dime      | Half-Cent | Total of Silver | Whole Coinage |            |
|               | pieces  | pieces     | pieces        | Number        | Value     | pieces      | pieces         | pieces    | pieces    | Number          | Value         | Value      |
| N.C.          |         |            |               |               |           |             |                |           |           |                 |               |            |
| 1838          |         | 12,886     | 7,894         | 20,780        | 84,165    |             |                |           |           |                 | 20,780        | 84,165     |
| 1839          |         | 23,467     | 18,173        | 41,640        | 162,767   |             |                |           |           |                 | 41,640        | 162,767    |
| 1840          |         | 18,994     | 12,834        | 31,828        | 127,055   |             |                |           |           |                 | 31,828        | 127,055    |
| 1841          |         | 21,467     | 10,281        | 31,748        | 133,038   |             |                |           |           |                 | 31,748        | 133,038    |
| 1842          |         | 27,480     | 8,642         | 36,122        | 159,005   |             |                |           |           |                 | 36,122        | 159,005    |
| 1843          |         | 44,353     | 26,096        | 70,449        | 287,005   |             |                |           |           |                 | 70,449        | 287,005    |
| 1844          |         | 23,631     | 11,622        | 35,253        | 147,210   |             |                |           |           |                 | 35,253        | 147,210    |
| Total         |         | 172,278    | 95,542        | 267,820       | 1,100,245 |             |                |           |           |                 | 267,820       | 1,100,245  |
| N.Y. & C.     |         |            |               |               |           |             |                |           |           |                 |               |            |
| 1838          |         | 20,583     |               | 20,583        | 102,915   |             |                |           |           |                 | 20,583        | 102,915    |
| 1839          |         | 18,939     | 13,674        | 32,613        | 128,880   |             |                |           |           |                 | 32,613        | 128,880    |
| 1840          |         | 22,896     | 3,532         | 26,428        | 123,310   |             |                |           |           |                 | 26,428        | 123,310    |
| 1841          |         | 30,495     | 4,164         | 34,659        | 162,885   |             |                |           |           |                 | 34,659        | 162,885    |
| 1842          |         | 59,608     | 4,643         | 64,251        | 309,648   |             |                |           |           |                 | 64,251        | 309,648    |
| 1843          |         | 98,482     | 36,209        | 134,691       | 582,782   |             |                |           |           |                 | 134,691       | 582,782    |
| 1844          |         | 88,982     | 17,332        | 106,314       | 488,600   |             |                |           |           |                 | 106,314       | 488,600    |
| Total         |         | 339,955    | 79,534        | 419,509       | 1,899,020 |             |                |           |           |                 | 419,509       | 1,899,020  |
| Ohio          |         |            |               |               |           |             |                |           |           |                 |               |            |
| 1838          |         |            |               |               |           |             |                | 402,430   |           | 402,430         | 40,243        | 402,430    |
| 1839          |         |            | 9,396         | 9,396         | 23,495    | 116,000     |                | 1,291,600 | 1,060,000 | 2,467,600       | 240,160       | 2,467,600  |
| 1840          |         | 30,400     | 26,200        | 56,600        | 217,500   | 855,100     | 425,200        | 1,175,000 | 935,000   | 3,390,300       | 698,100       | 3,446,900  |
| 1841          | 2,500   | 8,550      | 7,380         | 18,230        | 85,200    | 404,000     | 462,000        | 2,807,500 | 815,000   | 3,675,500       | 535,000       | 3,693,730  |
| 1842          | 27,400  | 16,400     | 19,800        | 63,600        | 405,500   | 957,000     | 769,000        | 2,026,000 | 350,000   | 4,096,000       | 890,250       | 4,159,600  |
| 1843          | 175,162 | 101,075    | 368,002       | 644,239       | 3,177,000 | 2,268,000   | 968,000        | 150,000   |           | 3,386,000       | 1,391,000     | 4,030,239  |
| 1844          | 118,700 | 364,600    |               | 483,300       | 3,010,000 | 2,005,000   | 744,000        |           | 220,000   | 2,965,000       | 1,198,500     | 3,443,300  |
| Total         | 323,762 | 520,825    | 430,778       | 1,275,365     | 6,918,690 | 6,602,100   | 3,354,200      | 7,046,500 | 3,380,000 | 20,382,830      | 5,013,253     | 21,658,195 |
| Sum of States | 323,762 | 1,033,658  | 605,874       | 1,963,694     | 9,917,955 | 6,602,100   | 3,354,200      | 7,046,500 | 3,380,000 | 20,382,830      | 5,013,253     | 22,346,224 |



## D.

*Coinage of the mint of the United States in the several years from its establishment in 1792, and including the coinage of the branch mints from the commencement of their operations, in 1838.*

| Years. | GOLD.         | SILVER.       | COPPER.      | WHOLE COINAGE. |                |
|--------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|        | Value.        | Value.        | Value.       | No. of pieces. | Value.         |
| 1793 } |               |               |              |                |                |
| 1794 } | \$71,485 00   | \$370,683 80  | \$11,373 00  | 1,834,420      | \$453,541 80   |
| 1795 } |               |               |              |                |                |
| 1796   | 102,727 50    | 79,077 50     | 10,324 40    | 1,219,370      | 192,129 40     |
| 1797   | 103,422 50    | 12,591 45     | 9,510 34     | 1,095,165      | 125,524 29     |
| 1798   | 205,610 00    | 330,291 00    | 9,797 00     | 1,368,241      | 545,698 00     |
| 1799   | 213,285 00    | 423,515 00    | 9,106 68     | 1,365,681      | 645,906 68     |
| 1800   | 317,760 00    | 224,296 00    | 29,279 40    | 3,337,972      | 571,335 40     |
| 1801   | 422,570 00    | 74,758 00     | 13,628 37    | 1,571,390      | 510,956 37     |
| 1802   | 423,310 00    | 58,343 00     | 31,422 83    | 3,615,869      | 516,075 83     |
| 1803   | 258,377 50    | 87,118 00     | 25,203 03    | 2,780,830      | 370,698 53     |
| 1804   | 258,642 50    | 100,340 50    | 12,844 94    | 2,046,839      | 371,827 94     |
| 1805   | 170,367 50    | 149,388 50    | 13,483 48    | 2,260,361      | 333,239 48     |
| 1806   | 324,505 00    | 471,319 00    | 5,260 00     | 1,815,409      | 801,084 00     |
| 1807   | 437,495 00    | 597,448 75    | 9,652 21     | 2,731,345      | 1,044,595 96   |
| 1808   | 284,665 00    | 684,300 00    | 13,090 00    | 2,935,888      | 982,055 00     |
| 1809   | 169,375 00    | 707,376 00    | 8,001 53     | 2,861,834      | 884,752 53     |
| 1810   | 501,435 00    | 638,773 50    | 15,660 00    | 3,056,418      | 1,155,868 50   |
| 1811   | 497,905 00    | 608,340 00    | 2,495 95     | 1,649,570      | 1,108,740 95   |
| 1812   | 290,435 00    | 814,029 50    | 10,755 00    | 2,761,646      | 1,115,219 50   |
| 1813   | 477,140 00    | 620,951 50    | 4,180 00     | 1,755,331      | 1,102,271 50   |
| 1814   | 77,270 00     | 561,687 50    | 3,578 30     | 1,833,859      | 642,535 80     |
| 1815   | 3,175 00      | 17,308 00     | -            | 69,867         | 20,483 00      |
| 1816   | -             | 28,575 75     | 28,209 82    | 2,888,135      | 56,785 57      |
| 1817   | -             | 607,783 50    | 39,484 00    | 5,163,967      | 647,267 50     |
| 1818   | 242,940 00    | 1,070,454 50  | 31,670 00    | 5,537,084      | 1,345,064 50   |
| 1819   | 258,615 00    | 1,140,000 00  | 26,710 00    | 5,074,723      | 1,425,325 00   |
| 1820   | 1,319,030 00  | 501,680 70    | 44,075 50    | 6,492,509      | 1,864,786 20   |
| 1821   | 189,325 00    | 825,762 45    | 3,890 00     | 3,139,249      | 1,018,977 45   |
| 1822   | 88,980 00     | 805,806 50    | 20,723 39    | 3,813,788      | 915,509 89     |
| 1823   | 72,425 00     | 895,550 00    | -            | 2,166,485      | 967,975 00     |
| 1824   | 93,200 00     | 1,753,477 00  | 12,620 00    | 4,786,894      | 1,858,297 00   |
| 1825   | 156,385 00    | 1,564,583 00  | 14,926 00    | 5,178,760      | 1,735,894 00   |
| 1826   | 92,245 00     | 2,002,090 00  | 16,344 25    | 5,774,434      | 2,110,679 25   |
| 1827   | 131,565 00    | 2,869,200 00  | 23,577 32    | 9,097,845      | 3,024,342 32   |
| 1828   | 140,145 00    | 1,575,600 00  | 25,636 24    | 6,196,853      | 1,741,381 24   |
| 1829   | 295,717 50    | 1,994,578 00  | 16,580 00    | 7,674,501      | 2,306,875 50   |
| 1830   | 643,105 00    | 2,495,400 00  | 17,115 00    | 8,357,191      | 3,155,620 00   |
| 1831   | 714,270 00    | 3,175,600 00  | 33,603 60    | 11,792,284     | 3,923,473 60   |
| 1832   | 798,435 00    | 2,579,000 00  | 23,620 00    | 9,128,387      | 3,401,055 00   |
| 1833   | 978,550 00    | 2,759,000 00  | 28,160 00    | 10,307,790     | 3,765,710 00   |
| 1834   | 3,954,270 00  | 3,415,002 00  | 19,151 00    | 11,637,643     | 7,388,423 00   |
| 1835   | 2,186,175 00  | 3,443,003 00  | 39,489 00    | 15,996,342     | 5,668,667 00   |
| 1836   | 4,135,700 00  | 3,606,100 00  | 23,100 00    | 13,719,333     | 7,764,900 00   |
| 1837   | 1,148,305 00  | 2,096,010 00  | 55,583 00    | 13,010,721     | 3,299,898 00   |
| 1838   | 1,809,595 00  | 2,333,243 00  | 63,702 00    | 15,780,311     | 4,206,540 00   |
| 1839   | 1,355,885 00  | 2,189,296 00  | 31,286 61    | 11,811,594     | 3,576,467 61   |
| 1840   | 1,675,302 50  | 1,726,703 00  | 24,627 00    | 10,558,240     | 3,426,632 50   |
| 1841   | 1,091,597 50  | 1,132,750 00  | 15,973 67    | 8,811,968      | 2,240,321 17   |
| 1842   | 1,834,170 50  | 2,332,750 00  | 23,833 90    | 11,743,153     | 4,190,754 40   |
| 1843   | 8,108,797 50  | 3,834,750 00  | 24,283 20    | 14,640,582     | 11,967,830 70  |
| 1844   | 5,428,230.00  | 2,235,550.00  | 23,987.52    | 9,051,834      | 7,687,767.52   |
|        | 44,553,918.00 | 64,620,234.90 | 1,003,608.48 | 293,299,905    | 110,177,761.38 |



CKo  
New York, July 22 1845

222

Fin

Your favor of the 21<sup>st</sup> is  
duly received communicating my  
appointment by the President as one  
of the Commissioners, under the act  
to carry into effect the 22<sup>nd</sup> section  
of the act supplementary to the act  
establishing a mint &c. The duties  
consequent thereon will be cheerfully  
rendered so far as my abilities serve  
I will meet the other commissioners  
in Phila on the 10<sup>th</sup> prox<sup>a</sup> agreeable  
to notice from the Director of the  
mint I am Sir

Very Respectly  
Yours obedt servt  
Saml J. Beckel

Hon:

Geo M. Bibb



Philad<sup>a</sup>. 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan'y 1845

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant appointing me a Commissioner to act conjointly with Professor Julius I. Ducatel of Baltimore, Robert Tyler Esq of this City, and Samuel I. Beebe Esq of New York, to carry into effect the 32<sup>nd</sup> Section of the Act Supplementary to an Act establishing a Mint and Regulating the Coins of the United States, approved January 18<sup>th</sup> 1837. which appointment it gives me pleasure to accept -

I am Sir,

Very Respectfully

Yours O<sup>b</sup>. St.

Wm. Cadwalader

Wm.

Geo. M. Bitt

Secretary of the Treasury



AK

324

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 23, 1845.

Sir,  
I received, this morning, a letter from  
Mr. S. F. Chapman, which he closes  
by saying, — "Your answer, of course,  
will be directed to the Department."

I accordingly take the liberty of  
sending my reply enclosed; and I send  
it open; though I could not presume  
to answer directly to you, a letter  
written to me by another person.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Mr. George M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



MK

2251

Mint of the United States.  
Jan. 23d, 1845.

Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of yesterday,  
with a package of Assay Coins sent  
from the Charlotte Mint, received at  
the same time.

At the request of Gen. George  
Cadwalader, I transmit to you the en-  
closed letter signifying his acceptance  
of the appointment of Assay Commissioner.  
I have also received acceptances from Robert  
Tyler, Esq., and from Saml. J. Beecher, Esq.  
From Prof. Ducaul of Baltimore, I  
have not yet heard, but I have no doubt  
that he also will join the Commission.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Wm. G. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



256

Mint of the United States.

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

The meeting of the Commissioners for the Annual Assay at the Mint, provided for by the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, was held the day before yesterday; and I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the minutes of their proceedings.

You will observe that all the members were present, except Professor Ducrest. He had accepted his appointment, and promised to be in attendance. I am, as yet, ignorant of the cause of his detention.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
A. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To Hon. Gen. Wm. B. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Copies from the Record kept at the Mint.

228

Mint of the United States,  
Monday, Feb. 10. 1845.

The Commissioners appointed under the 32<sup>d</sup> Section of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, met in conformity with the provisions of that act, for the purpose of making the annual trial of the gold & silver coins received at the Mint and its Branches during the year 1844.

Present:

Hon. Archibald Randall, Judge of the U. S.  
Dist. Court, Eas. Dist. of Penn.,  
Henry M. Watts, Esq., U. S. Attorney, for the  
Eastern District of Penn.,  
Calvin Blythe, Esq., Collector of the  
Port of Philadelphia,

Commissioners  
ex officio.

Gen. George Cadwalader, of Philadelphia,  
Robert Tyler, Esq., " do.  
Samuel L. Becker, Esq., " New York.

Commissioners  
designated by the  
President.

Prof. Julius T. Decalet, of Baltimore, did not attend.

Also present the following officers of the Mint:

The Director, The Melted & Refined,  
The Treasurer, The Assayer,  
The Chief Coiner, The Engraver,  
The Assistant Assayer.

The Chair was taken by the Hon. Judge Randall.  
The laws bearing upon the Annual Assay were read, -  
namely: Sections 8, 9, 10, 22, 25, 27 & 28, of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837.

Act of May 19, 1828; and Sect. 4 of Act of March 3, 1835.  
The minutes of the last Annual Assay were read; and it was resolved  
that the course then adopted should be pursued on the present occasion.

Checking minutes of the  
proceedings of the Assay-  
Commissioners on the 10th  
Feb, at the Mint.

Nov 1844



### Count of the Reserved Coins.

The Gold & Silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint, reserved from time to time, during the year 1844, for the Annual Assay, according to the provisions of the 27th Sect. of the Act of Jan. 18, 1837, - were taken from the chest in which they had been kept, and were counted, and the number & kind of pieces compared with the Registers, & were found to correspond with them in every instance.

Also the Gold & Silver coins from the Branch Mint at New Orleans, and the Gold coins from the Branch Mints at Charlotte, N. C., and Dahlonega, Geo. - transmitted under seal to the Director of the Mint, agreeably to the provisions of the 4th Sect. of the Act of March 3, 1835, to establish Branches of the Mint of the United States, - were counted, and the number & kind of pieces compared with the Registers, & were found to correspond with them in every instance. Except that in the Gold coins of the New Orleans Branch Mint, there were two half-eagles in excess.

### Weight of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of coins should be weighed; - when the following results were obtained:

The reserved Gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$947.50, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 50.920 ounces; <sup>their actual weight was found to be</sup> 50.928 ounces. <sup>So that they fell short of the standard weight by</sup>  $\frac{8}{1000}$  of an ounce.

The reserved Silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the value of \$107.10, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 92.039 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 92.033 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by  $\frac{6}{1000}$  of an ounce.

The reserved Gold coins of the New Orleans Br. Mint were of the value of \$3,000.00, - and consequently their legal standard weight was 161.250 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 161.224 ounces; so that they fell short of the



Philadelphia Mint  
year 1844, for the  
visions of the 27th  
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es compared with  
correspond with them

Branch Mint at New  
Branch Mint at New  
submitted under seal  
to the provisions of  
1835, to establish  
United States, - and  
ies compared with  
them in every instance  
New Orleans Branch  
in excess.

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l parcels of coins  
results were obtained.  
Philadelphia Mint were of  
their legal standard  
50.920 ounces; the standard  
fell short of

Philadelphia Mint

standard weight by  $\frac{86}{1000}$  of an ounce.

The reserved Silver coins of the New Orleans Br. Mint were of the value of \$236.70,- and consequently their legal standard weight was 203.414 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 203.328 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by  $\frac{86}{1000}$  of an ounce.

The reserved Gold coins of the Charlotte Br. Mint were of the value of \$220.00,- and consequently their legal standard weight was 11.825 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 11.825 ounces; so that they corresponded with the standard weight precisely.

The reserved Gold coins of the Dahlonega Br. Mint were of the value of \$1,107.50,- and consequently their legal standard weight was 59.528 ounces. Their actual weight was found to be 59.507 ounces; so that they fell short of the standard weight by  $\frac{21}{1000}$  of an ounce.

It appeared, therefore, that the deviations from standard weight were in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

### Assay of Reserved Coins.

The Commissioners then, with the assent of the officers of the Mint, directed that the several parcels of gold & silver coins should be melted & cast into separate bars, and assayed; when the following results were obtained:

The reserved gold coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 899.9 thousandths; and were therefore one-tenth of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the Philadelphia Mint were of the fineness of 900.4 thousandths; and were therefore four-tenths of a thousandth above the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the New Orleans Br. Mint were of the fineness of 899.8 thousandths; and were therefore two-tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved silver coins of the New Orleans Br. Mint were of the fineness of 901.1 thousandths; and were therefore one & one-tenth thousandth above the legal standard.



44  
The reserved gold coins of the Charlotte Br. Mint were of the fineness of 899.7 thousandths; and were three four three-tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

The reserved gold coins of the Dahlonega Br. Mint were of the fineness of 899.5 thousandths; and were three four five-tenths of a thousandth below the legal standard.

It appeared therefore that the deviations from standard fineness were in every instance within the limits allowed by law.

The Commissioners accordingly approve the gold & silver coins issued at the Mint and its Branches during the year 1844.

### Examination of the Weights.

The Commissioners then, in compliance with the provisions of the 3d Sect. of the Act of May 19, 1828, proceeded to test the accuracy of the weights ordinarily employed at the Mint, by comparing them with the series of standard weights kept for the purpose, and the correspondence was found to be in every instance satisfactory.

Signed:

Arch<sup>r</sup>. Randall.

Robt. Tyler.

H. M. Watts, Atty. U.S. & D.P.

Saml. J. Beebe.

Calvin Bytho.

Geo. Cadwalader.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Sir, I have  
the Bond of  
payee of the  
with the ec  
it is to my

Yr. Hon. Geo.  
Secretary



Mint of the United States.  
Feb. 13, 1845.

Sir,  
I have the honor to return herewith,  
the Bond given by Isaac L. Todd, as As-  
sayer of the Branch Mint at Dahlonega,  
with the certificate, required by law, that  
it is to my satisfaction.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. Genl. Bitt,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Proved sent to Compt.  
15 Feb. 45.



229

Mint of the United States,  
Feb. 18, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send, herewith, a statement of the operations of the Mint and Branches, for January.

A box of dies for the Br. Mint at New Orleans was sent yesterday, and a second box is sent to-day, which I beg may be franked and forwarded as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Mr. George W. Bibt,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



Mint of the United States,  
March 13, 1845.

Sir,

I beg leave to ask your attention to the following paragraphs in the recent appropriation act, having reference to the Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina.

"For the erection of a building in the place of the one destroyed by fire, twenty-five thousand dollars; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby required so to arrange the plan of the building, and the execution of it, that the whole cost of the building shall not exceed the aforesaid sum."

"For the purchase of Machinery and tools, including repairs of the old, and contingencies, ten thousand dollars; and that the expenditure of the appropriations for the erection of the building and the purchase & repair of Machinery, be commenced as soon as practicable after the passage of this act."

In consequence of a call from the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Treasury applied to me, on the 7th of December last, for "an estimate of the cost of again placing the Branch Mint at Charlotte in a condition for



resuming its operations."

I replied on the 14<sup>th</sup> of the same month, and sent to the Department plans of the proposed building, with full specifications, and a detailed estimate of the cost. I also presented estimates in detail of the cost of the new machinery needed, and the repairs required to the old.

The appropriations made were founded on these estimates, & correspond with them.

I presume that the first step required, in the execution of the work thus provided for, is that the plans submitted to the Department shall receive your approbation. If this be given, it will then rest with you to select an agent or agents for carrying them into execution.

When the Branch Mints were established, the general superintendence of the work was committed to the Director of the Mint; and if it be your plan now to take the same course now, I will set on foot the necessary measures without delay.

On the former occasion, the erection of the buildings was entrusted to a Commissioner, who made the contracts & paid the money. I would propose that this duty should now be performed by the Superintendent under the instructions of the Director; and as, under the Act, his salary would



in this case, be continued, I think that no commis-  
sion should be allowed on his disbursements.

The new machinery must be made in  
Philadelphia, and part of it, perhaps, at this Mint.  
It would, I presume, become my duty to place  
the work in proper hands.

Having thus laid this matter before  
you, I now respectfully await your instructions  
with regard to it.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
(Director)

To

Hon. Robert J. Walker, }  
Secy of Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
March 14, 1845.

Sir,

At the request of the President of the Washington Mining Company, I send the enclosed report on the only silver mine yet found in the United States. It is made by Richard C. Taylor, Esq., a distinguished geologist, in whose skill, judgment, and truthfulness, I think that reliance may safely be placed.

We have coined, at the Mint, more than \$24,000 worth of silver from this mine.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson.

To  
Hon. Robert J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully the Secretary  
of the Washington Mining Co.



Mint of the United States.  
March 14, 1845.

Sir,

At the request of the President of the Washington Mining Company, I send the enclosed report on the only silver mine yet found in the United States. It is made by Richard C. Taylor, Esq., a distinguished geologist, in whose skill, judgment, and truthfulness, I think that reliance may safely be placed.

We have coined, at the Mint, more than \$24,000 worth of silver from this mine.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
D. W. Patterson.

To  
Messrs. Robert J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully the Secretary  
of the Washington Mining Co.



Mint of the United States.

March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1845

Sir,

I have the honor to present, herewith, a report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches, for the month of February.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon<sup>ble</sup> R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
March 19th, 1848.

Sir,

An application has been made to me, from the  
Firmness & Mechanics Bank of this City, to receive for  
them, (into quarters, dimes, and half-dimes, as I understand)  
an amount, to some extent, of U.S. half-dollars of  
the old Standard.

I am impressed, very fully, with the propriety  
of granting this request, and respectfully apply to  
you for your approbation of the measure. There is  
no legal obstacle in the way; but we have not heretofore  
accepted deposits of any U.S. Coins, except  
those of gold issued prior to the change of Standard  
in 1834.

What I now propose is, that authority be given  
to the Director of the Mint to receive at his discretion,  
on deposit for recoinage, Silver coins of the United  
States, bearing date prior to 1837; and that such  
coins be received by weight, and as of their legal  
Standard, viz. 892.4 thousandths.

The measure thus proposed is rendered im-  
portant by the circumstance of the increased demand  
for small coins which will be caused by the new  
Postage act, and by the scarcity of foreign Silver



for their manufacture. It is certainly also  
desirable that our coins should, as far as  
possible, be of the same standard.  
I may add that the old coins are inferior to  
the present in their mechanical execution, so  
that this circumstance also makes them more  
= age desirable.

Very respectfully,  
your ob<sup>d</sup> servant,

R. M. Patterson  
Director.

To/  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Robert L. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury



the Secy approves  
M.E.J.

234

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, March 27, 1845.

Sir,

I had the honor of writing to you, on the 13th inst., to ask your approbation of the plans, which I had laid before the Department, for rebuilding and reestablishing the Branch Mint at Charlotte; and to beg your instructions to take immediate measures for carrying these plans into execution. Will you excuse me for again taking the liberty of asking for your action in this important matter. I find that there is great anxiety at Charlotte that the work should be begun without delay.

If the plans, specifications, and estimates, which were sent by me to the Department, in December last, be not now there, they will, I presume, be found in the room of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

Wm. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



295

Mint of the United States  
Philadelphia April 5, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> inst., conveying to me your instructions with regard to the rebuilding &c. of the Branch Mint at Charlotte.

I have already taken measures as to the machinery required, the greater part of which I propose to have made, in the machine-shop of this Mint. This course will insure economy, and the best workmanship.

I have given my instructions and advice to Mr. Green W. Caldwell, the Superintendent of the Charlotte Mint, as to the measures to be taken by him for the construction of the building.

I take the liberty of sending, to be forwarded under your frank to Mr. Caldwell, a copy of the Specifications, which you state to have been sent from the Department to the committee of Ways and Means.

I gladly avail myself of your offer to transmit to Mr. Caldwell the



plans of the building now in the Department  
I have a copy of them at the Mint, for  
own use.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Robert J. Walker  
Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treasury



Mint of the United States,  
April 15, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you, herewith,  
a Statement of the operations of the Mint and  
its Branches in the month of March.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To/

Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Respecting the receipt  
of the Branch Office

Received of the Branch Office  
March 5, 1845



237  
Mint of the United States,  
April 21, 1845.

Sir,

By a letter of the 16th inst., just received from Green W. Caldwell, Esq., Superintendent of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, I have received the information which I have now the honor to communicate to you.

Mr. Caldwell states that, "under the instructions and specifications" that had been sent to him, he has made a contract for the erection of the new Mint Building, with Mr. Henry C. Owens. That "he is a faithful & skillful workman, a man of character & responsibility, and one who will take a deep interest in the faithful execution of the work. That he is a resident of the place, and one in whom the community have every confidence. He enters into bond, with ample security, in the penal sum of \$30,000, for the faithful performance of the work, according to the instructions, specifications, and drawings of the building, by the 1st day of January, 1846."

This contract appears to me to be perfectly satisfactory.

In my letter to you of the 5th inst., I say that I ~~say~~ that "I gladly avail myself of your offer to transmit to Mr. Caldwell the plans of

Report of Mint at  
Charlotte for March 1845.



the building now in the Department." I find  
from his letter that they had not been received.  
If their transmission has been overlooked, may I say  
that you will now cause them to be forwarded.  
It is essential that they be in the hands of  
the Superintendent and Contractor.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Hon. R. J. Walker, }  
Secy of Treasury. }



Mint of the United States.  
May 12th, 1845.

Sir,

The Director's Clerk, Mr. George F. Drumming, determined, some months ago, to leave the situation in the Mint which he has filled, for several years, to my entire satisfaction, and to return, with his family, to his native home, at Brunswick in Maine. Circumstances made it desirable to me that he should remain at the Mint longer than he had designed, and he has done so; but a period is come when he ought to be released.

Under the 3d Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, the Clerks of the Mint are appointed by the Director, with the approbation of the President.



I accordingly now name, for the place  
about to be vacated, Mr. Robert Patterson  
of this city; and I most respectfully apply, through you, to the  
President, for his approbation of  
this appointment.

As the place to be filled is in my  
own immediate department, and as it  
requires a person who has my entire con-  
fidence, and who must be brought into  
close personal as well as official con-  
nexion with me, I hope that I need  
not apologise for naming my own  
son.

That the President may judge of  
Mr. Patterson's fitness for the situation  
I will mention that he had a thorough  
college education at the University of  
Virginia, and afterwards received the  
highest distinction in the Law Class in  
that institution, of which he became a  
graduate. He then prepared himself  
in the office of his uncle Mr. Kane,  
for admission to practice in the Court



in this city, and began the pursuit of his  
profession with a degree of success which  
I must have put the acceptance of a clerk-  
ship out of the question. But unhappily  
he has become afflicted with a hard-  
ness of hearing which has interrupted  
his professional career, and which now  
makes the situation of Director's Clerk  
very desirable to him.

As he has a good education; good  
talents, and an unexceptionable person-  
al character, I have great confidence  
in asking that the President will  
approve of his appointment.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful Servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> R. A. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
May 12, 1845.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt,  
on the 10th inst., of a package of coins from the  
Branch Mint at Dahlonega, forwarded under  
your frank.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

To

Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States  
May 30, 1845.

Sir,

I received, this morning, a draft for one thousand dollars, under the appropriation "For the purchase of machinery and tools, including repairs of the old, and contingencies," for the Branch Mint at Charlotte, North Carolina. —

I have now the honor to request instructions from the Department as to the mode of accounting for the expenditures which I am making under the appropriation in question. What I wish to know is whether the amounts drawn are charged against me as Director, or against the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, and consequently whether I am to account directly to the Department, or to the Treasurer of the Branch Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Wm. R. F. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



Mint of the United States.  
June 2d, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed  
the official bond of John R. Mac-  
murdo, Treasurer of the Branch Mint  
of the United States at New Orleans,  
with the certificate, required by law,  
that it is to my satisfaction.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To/

Hon. Robert J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

All the instructions in the  
 bond of Macmurdo for the  
 Mint at New Orleans are  
 signed by him.



Mint of the United States,  
June 9, 1845.

Sir,

I find that the Treasury drafts on the Banks, for payments in foreign silver coin or bullion, have caused them no small embarrassment. We have received payment, directly, only from the Bank of Commerce of New York. All the other Banks, (except perhaps the Bank of the State of New York, from which I have no information,) have been obliged to employ the house of Beuk & Parshall, (specie brokers,) to procure the means, and make the payments for them. This may be effected in full to-morrow; but it will be with the greatest difficulty, if, indeed, it be not necessary to submit to a delay of some days, - not, as Mr. Beuk assures me, extending beyond the present week. This House has asked us to receive U.S. Coins for such amount as they may be in defect, to take up the drafts, with a pledge from them that they would replace these coins, in the course of a few days, by the kind of silver required on the face of the drafts. This would be no inconvenience to the Mint, and would not in the end interfere with the purpose



you have in view; but we feel doubtful of the propriety of taking the course they propose with authority from the Department, and it is now too late to get it before the drafts fall due.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

P. M. Patterson

Director

To  
Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury. }



Mint of the United States.  
June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,  
After the letter which I wrote to you yesterday, I feel it my duty to state, that all the Treasury transfer drafts, made payable here this day, have been duly paid in foreign silver coins or bullion, except No. 159, on the Bank of the State of New York, for \$9000.

Under the authority granted to me, in your letter of the 21<sup>th</sup> of March last, I accepted part of this payment in U.S. half-dollars, of the old standard, received by weight as bullion.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,

Director

To  
Hon. R. J. Walker, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Disbursing the Treasury  
 Draft in favor of the Mint  
 June 9, 1845



244

Mint of the United States,  
June 11, 1845.

Sir,

I have the satisfaction to inform you that the draft on the State of New York, in our favor, was paid this morning in Mexican dollars. This completes the payments of the whole amount of \$100,000.

The package of Assay coins, from the Santiago Mint, announced in your letter of yesterday, has been received.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

24

Am. R. J. Walker, }  
Secy of Treasury.

Receiving the first  
month of the new year  
1845



2455

Mint of the United States  
June 13, 1845.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of yesterday presents questions, connected with our Mint operations, which are of great interest, and to which I lose no time in replying, according to the best information that I possess.

Silver bullion, including foreign coins, is now scarce in the United States. The call which you had already made for it, upon the banks, caused them embarrassment, and forced nearly all of them to have recourse to the Houses of Beebe and Parshall, to whom they paid one per cent for Mexican dollars. Mr. Beebe, of the Philadelphia house, assures me, however, that the scarcity is diminishing, and that we may soon expect silver deposits for coinage, which have been so long nearly suspended.

Mexican dollars are more abundant in New Orleans than here; still the deposits at the Mint there for silver coinage, in the month of May, amounted to only <sup>133,000</sup> ~~100,000~~ dollars.

I am assured that the Banks, here and in New York, are well supplied with dimes and half-dimes; but I think, with you, that when the new postages come into use, the demand for small coins will be found to exceed the present supply.

The



The number of dimes and half-dimes in the South Western States is, as I believe, greater than here. They were for a long time freely received as Eighths and sixteenths of a dollar, and were in consequence not only coined in large quantities at the New Orleans Mint, but also at this Mint, for the supply of the valley of the Mississippi.

On the 20th of March last, I received a letter from the Treasurer of the Mint at New Orleans, in which he says,—"Applications have been made at this office to receive dimes and half-dimes, of the coinage of the United States, in deposit, to be re-coined into coins of a larger denomination. This we have heretofore declined; but there are so many of these small coins held in this city, and they are so very inconvenient for the purposes of trade, that I beg to consult you as to whether it would be proper to receive them on deposit, to be re-coined as stated." To this application, I of course made reply in the negative; but it still serves to show that there was an excess of these small coins for the purposes for which they were then required.

As to the amount of this coinage which we can execute at the Mint, I have to state that we have two presses now at work, one on dimes and the other on half-dimes, and that each of them can strike 50,000 pieces per day; that is \$5000 in dimes, and \$2,500 in halves. This coinage would not interfere with that of quarter and half-dollars, or of gold pieces.



In the five years from 1839 to 1843 inclusive, the average annual coinage, at this Mint, of Dimes was \$145,834, and of half-Dimes \$55,432. In the year 1844, that of Dimes was but \$7,250, and that of halves but \$21,500. It cannot, however, be inferred from this, that the demand for these coins had been supplied, for the whole coinage was proportionally reduced, in consequence of the high rates of foreign exchange.

May I ask your attention to the question of the expediency of coining the whole of the large amount of silver, which you have provided for us, into Dimes and half-Dimes. Quarter-Dollars are as little liable to exportation, and form a most convenient currency. May I not order part of the silver to be made into these pieces? You have drawn from our former deposits \$6,500 in half-Dollars. May I not be permitted to replace these? In support of these requests, I would state that your recent orders found us with \$8,965 in Dimes, and \$9,100 in half-Dimes, already on hand.

Your late draft on us reduced our gold deposit, already small, \$13,500. Gold is abundant in the banks. Can you not order a transfer draft, in our favor, payable in foreign gold coins? At every new session of Congress, we have an application for United States gold for the pay of the members; while I have reason to



to believe that the banks at Washington have  
full supplies of sovereigns lying in their vaults.

Most respectfully & truly yours,

P. M. Patterson.

Hon. R. J. Walker.



246.

Mint of the United States.  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith  
a report of the operations of the Mint  
and Branch Mints, for the month of  
May.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> R. J. Walker  
Secretary of the Treasury.



247

Mint of the United States  
June 17th, 1845.

Sir,

I sent, by the mail which left here this afternoon, a report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches, for the month of May. We have since found that a mistake was committed in carrying out the amounts, and I have therefore now to beg that you will substitute for it the report which I send enclosed.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To Hon<sup>ble</sup> R. J. Walker  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

In a letter which I had the honor of addressing to you on the 9<sup>th</sup> inst., I mentioned the embarrassment which the treasury transfer drafts, payable here in foreign silver coins or bullion, had given to the banks, and that it had proved nearly all of them to have recourse to the Houses of Beecher and Parrish, in New York and Philadelphia, for the supply of silver called for.

The same thing has occurred with the drafts payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July; and Messrs Beecher, Parrish & Co have already deposited with us \$15000 of Mexican coins. They state that they will use



every exertion to supply the whole demand  
in time, but yet that all their efforts  
may fail; and, under these circumstances,  
they renew the proposition which they  
had made on the former occasion, and  
which I reported to you in my letter  
above referred to. It is that we should  
receive from them U.S. coins for such amount  
as they may be in defect, to take up the  
drafts, with a pledge that they would  
replace these coins, in the course of a  
few days, by the kind of silver required  
on the face of the drafts. This course  
would not, in the end, interfere with  
the purpose you have in view, and it  
would prevent a measure to which the  
parties might otherwise be driven, - the  
manufacture of a factitious silver  
coin, by the melting down of U.S.  
coins.



Under these circumstances, I would respectfully inquire of you, whether it might not be desirable that the request made by Messrs. Becker and Parishall should be acceded to.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Under these circumstances, I would respectfully inquire of you, whether it might not be desirable that the request made by Messrs. Becker and Parishall should be acceded to.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
R. W. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
July 1st, 1845.

Sir,

At the request of Dr. Gibbon, Assayer of the Branch Mint at Charlotte, I send the enclosed copy of a letter, written on the 16th of January, to the late Secretary of the Treasury. Dr. Gibbon has stated that it was not on the files of the Department.

I have now only to say, with regard to it, that I still fully entertain the opinions which it expresses.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Wm. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



(Copy.)

Mint of the United States  
Jan. 6th. 1845

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd. inst., and in reply to it, I have to state, first, that the Officers of the Branch Mint at Charlotte still continue to hold their commissions, and to receive their salaries; and that at my last advices the workmen, not exceeding four in number, were still employed about the establishment, and received wages.

The question of the propriety of discontinuing the offices, should in my judgment be made to depend upon the action of Congress with regard to the proposed measure of again putting this Mint in operation. I know that the Assayer and Coiner depend upon their present salaries for the support of themselves and their families. If this resource should be cut off, it would be necessary for these gentlemen to seek other employment, and no doubt in other places. I am, Sir,



then, could there be any certainty, of commanding their services, rendered peculiarly valuable by their skill and experience, - when these services may be required? They appear to me to be in the position of officers in the army or navy, who though not actually employed, are held under orders. But, if it be determined that the Charlotte Mint shall be again rebuilt and set in operation, the officers can immediately make themselves useful, - and particularly the Superintendent, under whose immediate charge the work ought, in my opinion, to be placed, and not, as before, in the hands of a Special Commissioner. The coiners, too, would be of almost indispensable service, in setting up and putting into action the new machinery, and analogous duties would be required of the assayers in his department. If, then, the Mint is to be restored, I think it would be impolitic



to interrupt its present official organization.

I have been informed by the Superintendent, that the workmen have been usefully employed in removing rubbish, and in other necessary labor about the building, and in guarding the premises. I do not know whether they are all still needed for such purposes, nor indeed whether they are still under pay. If, however, the building and machinery are to be restored, it is certain that these men could be at once made very useful.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

(signed) R. M. Patterson,

Director.

W/

Hon. Geo. M. Pitt,

Sec. of Treasury,

Washington.



250

Mint of the United States.  
July 1st, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith  
the official bond of Robert Patterson,  
appointed Director's Clerk in the  
Mint, with the approbation of the  
President, to supply the place re-  
sund vacant by the resignation of  
Mr. George F. Denning.

The Secretaries, Mr. Kane and  
Mr. Lippin, are gentlemen with  
whose competency you are yourself  
acquainted.

and  
referred to  
in  
Bangs' 2nd

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

Wm. R. F. Waller,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.



P. O. Dep 251  
July 5<sup>th</sup> 1845

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July suggesting the  
propriety of exchanging the foreign coins  
red at New Orleans & Philadelphia post  
offices, for the coins of the U. S. with the mint  
has been recd - we complied with your  
suggestions instructions have been given  
to the post masters at those places to  
exchange the foreign coins for the coins  
of the U. S. whenever the same can be  
done without loss to the office

I am very respectfully

Yours friend

C. Johnson  
PM Genl

The Secretary of the Treasury



252

Mint of the United States.  
June 6th, 1845.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d inst., announcing the important measure which you have taken, of procuring deposits to be made at the Mint, to the amount of \$100,000, in silver bullion or foreign coins, to be coined into dimes and half-dimes, in order to meet the demand for those coins about to be created when the new post-office law shall go into operation. You may be assured that every exertion will be made, on our part, to second your views in this matter, by the earliest possible preparation of the coins required.

Your instructions as to the moneys remitted to me on account of the machinery for the Branch Mint at Charlotte shall be attended to.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To  
Messrs. R. J. Walker, }  
Secretaries of the Treasury.



253

Mint of the United States,  
June 6, 1845.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you,  
by the present mail, a box of dies directed,  
on the inner envelope, to the Supt. of the  
Pt. Mint at New Orleans, which I beg  
you to forward under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
R. M. Patterson,  
(Director.)

Sir,

Hon. R. L. Walker, }  
Secy of Treasury.



254

Mint of the United States  
July, 9, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., in which you state that a claim had been made by the Merchants' Bank at Boston, and the Bank of Louisiana at New Orleans, for an allowance, on the part of the Mint, for the gain on the coinage of Mexican dollars, transferred by them, on Treasury drafts.

I have already had occasion to act upon this question, in the deposits made with us under the same circumstances, and I have not hesitated to consider the foreign coins, thus deposited, as bullion, to be received and accounted for as if they were silver bars. The balance remaining, after taking up the Transfer Drafts, has accordingly been paid, in every instance, to the depositor. In some cases, this was to the Banks, in others it was to the Brokers whom they had employed, and who were to procure and deposit the foreign coins or bullion necessary to take up the drafts, and who did so in their own names. The coins were never counted by us, but were received by weight and assay, exactly as we receive other bullion. If they had fallen short of the required amount, the depositor would



have been held responsible for the deficit, and it is but just; that, in the opposite contingency, he should have advantage of any excess.

The gain on new Mexican dollars, may be estimated at 7 or 8 tenths per cent., on old dollars, the gain is less, both because they are lighter from wear, and are of lower standard.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

By

Wm. R. J. Walker, }  
Secretary of the Treasury }



Mint of the United States,

July 24, 1845.

*P. M.*

I have the honor to send enclosed a report of the operations of the Mint and its Branches for the Month of June. It has been delayed for the statement from New Orleans.

Since the 21st of June, we have coined \$132,000 in dimes, and \$9,000 in half dimes, and the work is still going on. The whole number of pieces, amounting to two and a half millions, has been readily minted, by one man, by the aid of the counting-board invented by Mr. Rufus Tyler. Without this apparatus, the counting would have <sup>been</sup> frequently, and seriously, interrupted <sup>the</sup> other work of the Mint.

In a letter from New Orleans, of the 10th inst., the Superintendent of the Branch Mint mentions that they are engaged in coining, into dimes and half dimes, a transfer deposit, made by your order, of \$30,000. When this is completed, it is deemed necessary that the operations of that Mint should be suspended, for the sickly season. This course is called for, not merely by the just apprehensions of disease, but by the necessity of repairs in the boilers and furnaces, which will occupy some weeks.

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Wm. R. I. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States

Aug. 5, 1845.

256

Sir,

In a letter of the 11th ult., which I had the honor to receive from you, you make to me the following communication.

"As you state that in your judgment it is expedient that the Assayer and Coiner of the Branch Mint at Charlotte be continued in service for the purpose of superintending the construction of the furnaces and machinery belonging to their respective departments, you are authorized to employ both those Officers, and you will be pleased to give the necessary instructions."

Under the authority thus given, I immediately wrote to the Superintendent to take the Assayer, Mr. Gibbon, into active service; and I have received from him, to day, notice that Dr. Gibbon has returned to Charlotte, and has reported himself as ready to lend any assistance that may be necessary in his department.

The Coiner, Mr. Bolton, died on the 4th of July, so that but one of the Officers with regard to whom your authority was given, could receive the advantage of it, or render the services which it required.

In a letter of the 19th of March, Mr. Caldwell says: "If I be retained as Superintendent of the Building, I shall make application, at the proper time, to retain the services of the Clerk, should you think it would be available." In a letter of the 30th ult., Mr. Caldwell asks me to apply for authority to this effect, and says: "I have no hesitation in saying, that his [Mr. Strange's] services are important; that in fact he has rendered services ever since the passage of the act, without any compensation, and that I deem his services of more im-

With regard to the  
Assayer and Coiner,  
I have no objection.



portance than those of either the Assayer or Carrier?"

Under these circumstances, I respectfully ask your Authority, the employment of the Clerk of the Charlotte Branch Mint, who has been connected with that establishment from its commencement, and has performed the duties of his Office most ably and faithfully. His business, if now employed, would be the keeping of the accounts, and in general the performance of all those functions which belong to the Office called, by Architects, the "Clerk of the Works."

Very respectfully,

your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson.

By

Wm. R. I. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



257.

P. O. Dep

Aug<sup>t</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1845

Dear Sir,

You will much oblige me  
by enclosing this letter to the mail  
with the request if it be proper  
to send the copper coins I have then  
enclosed & to draw for them! upon  
the P. M. at New Orleans

Yours  
C. Johnson



15. on each Bk Phila

Bk - on Bk State N.Y.

Mechanics -

Merchants -

258

Mint of the United States.

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send enclosed a report of the operations of the Mint and Branch Mints, for the month of July. You will observe that, in this month, more than two and a half millions of pieces were coined in the Philadelphia Mint alone.

Our deposits of gold for coinage, in the present month, have already reached about \$250,000, and our whole government deposit is but \$85,000. This is not a sufficient capital to enable us to make prompt payments, without which foreign gold for recoinage is unwillingly offered. A deposit of \$153,400,



in foreign gold coins, sent from London  
and made on the 31st ult., is still unpaid.  
If our government deposits of gold had  
amounted to \$200,000, we should not  
have been subjected to this mortifying  
delay. May I, then, most respec-  
tfully ask, that, if it do not  
interfere with other views of the  
Department, you would issue trans-  
fer warrants of gold, in favor of  
the Treasurer of the Mint, to such  
an amount as would relieve our depen-  
dence from delay of payment;— say  
\$100,000, or rather \$115,000.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States 259  
August 20th, 1843.

Mr,  
Your note of the 7th inst. asking my views with regard to the office of Engraver of the Mint, was handed to me by Mr. Leonard, who is an applicant for that situation.

The present incumbent, Mr. Longacre, is a gentleman of excellent character, highly regarded in this community, and has acquired some celebrity as an engraver on copper; but he is not a die-sinker. Indeed, I do not know that he has ever made an attempt in this art. For the mere routine work of the Mint, however, it is not required. So long as we can rest contented with our present coins, the making of the dies used for the Mint will be a mere mechanical operation, and the office of Engraver little more than a sinecure. I confess, however, that I am not myself contented with our coins, as works of art, and if I knew a man of real taste, talent and skill, who could make for us a new set of original dies, I would not hesitate to recommend him for appointment at the Mint. But I do not know any such person in the United States, and I doubt if there be one.

Mr. Leonard has, until now, built his pretensions upon a medal which he engraved, of the head of the elder Adams. I have frankly told him that I did not consider it a satisfactory evidence of his ability to make the dies required for the Mint; and I am quite sure that, in this judgment, I should be joined



by every man of taste. He feels confident, however, that  
he can execute a die that would be satisfactory, and he is  
now engaged in cutting one, as a test, in the low relief required  
for coins. When he has completed this work, he will  
bring it to me, and I will make report to you of his success.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

Cy

Am. R. I. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury



200

Mint of the United States.

August 21st, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th, enclosing an application for Copper Coins, for the Post Master at New Orleans. I regret that the Post Master General and yourself should have been troubled with this simple transaction, as it is one in the ordinary <sup>course of</sup> business of the Mint. The cents applied for are already shipped to the Post Master at New Orleans.

It was thought, by the late Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint, that it would be a convenience to the people of that city, if a supply of copper coins were kept in the Mint there for distribution; and, accordingly, with the consent of the Department, I caused \$1500 worth of cents to be forwarded for that object.



The measure, plausible as it seemed, proved a failure. The coins were sent to the close of 1842, and up to June 1844 the \$880 worth were exchanged for other money when, in order to prevent further delay in the settlement of our Profane account, it became necessary that the balance on hand, of \$520, which could not be sold, should be returned to the Mint; and it was so returned.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



261  
Mint of the United States.

Aug. 23, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d, stating that you had acceded to my request for an addition to our Government Deposit of Gold, and had caused transfer warrants to be issued on Banks in Philadelphia and New York to the amount of \$115,000.

I have to express my regret that there is no notice given, in the drafts or otherwise, as to the metal in which the payments are to be made; and as the drafts are payable on demand, it is not likely that time would now be allowed for instructions from the Department. I, therefore, feel myself under the necessity of conveying our wishes, as to the mode of payment, to the Banks here and in New York to which the drafts have been sent. I shall let them know, that, for the purpose in view, it is essential that the payment be made in gold, and that it is most desirable that it should be either in bullion or foreign coins.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

20/

Hon. R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States.  
Aug. 26, 1845.

Sir, On acknowledging the receipt of your letter of yesterday, I have the pleasure to state that the explanation which I had communicated to the banks on which the transfer drafts were drawn, as to the mistake in which it was intended that they should be paid, proved quite sufficient, and that the payments are either already made, or will be very soon made, as required.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Mrs. R. J. Walker, }  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Transfer drafts in favor of



Mint of the United States.

Sept. 12th, 1845.

263

Sir, I have the honor to send herewith  
a report of the operations of the  
Mint and Branches for the month  
of August. You are already  
aware that no work was done at the  
New Orleans Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

P. M. Patterson,

Director.

To  
Wm. Robert J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

there is no pressing necessity to make



264

Mint of the United States,  
Sept. 26, 1845.

Sir,

In a letter to you of the 20th ult., I mentioned that Mr. Leonard, who is an applicant for the Office of Engraver of the Mint, was about to prepare a die which might show his skill as an artist. He has done so, and I now send enclosed an impression, which we have taken from the die, in fusible alloy.

It is certainly a creditable production, though not an unexceptionable one, as he himself acknowledges. Although it was not, at first, as Mr. Leonard says, intended to be a likeness of Louis Philippe, it is still, in all essential points, a copy of the head on the coins of this monarch, and cannot, therefore, lay ~~for~~ full claim to the rank of an original production.

Mr. Leonard is not without a competitor for the place which he seeks. There is a young artist, named Welsh, of no inconsiderable merit, who is now engaged in a trial of his skill. As there is no pressing necessity to make



a choice for a successor to Mr. Longacre,  
supposing even that it is determined  
that he shall be superseded, - I hope  
that no decision will be made, until  
this new specimen can be introduced  
into the competition.

Very respectfully,  
your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson  
(Director)

To,

Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



263

Mint of the United States.

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to send herewith  
a Report of the operations of the Mint  
and its Branches, for the Month of  
September.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To

Am. R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States  
Oct. 20th, 1845. 200,

Sir,

By writing the enclosed letter, on  
business of the Charlotte Branch Mint,  
I am reminded of the propriety of in-  
forming you that I have yet been  
able to meet with a suitable candidate  
for the vacant office of Coiner there. The  
case, however, is not pressing, and it  
is better to submit to a longer delay,  
than to make an unsuitable selection.

I understand that the assayer,  
Mr. Gibbon, is urging the appoint-  
ment of his son. I do not question  
the merits of this young gentleman,  
but I cannot overlook the fact, that  
he is not a Mechanician, and  
that he is the son of the Officer  
who would have to pass judgment  
on the fidelity of his official ope-



rations. Mr. Gibbon, in reply to  
the latter serious objection, presents  
the example of this Mint, in which  
for several years, the Coiner and the  
Assayer were father and son. But the  
cases are by no means parallel. The  
Assayer has no judgment to pass  
upon the Coinage proper. It is the  
work of the Minter and Refiner which  
he is constantly called upon to test  
and the Coiner of the Charlotte Mint  
has committed to him the functions  
of Minter and Refiner.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

R. M. Patterson,

Director.

To

Hon. R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.



Unit of the United States,  
Nov. 4, 1845.

DL

Sir,

In your letter of the 17th ult., you mention that transfer drafts had been ordered in favor of the Unit, to the amount of \$190,000, to be paid on the bank, in foreign gold. I think it proper to state that these drafts have all been paid, as required, except, one, for \$15000, on the American Exchange Bank, at New York. I learn, by a letter from the Cashier, of the bank, in reply to one I had written to him on the subject, that he had requested, and expected, this payment to be made for him by the Philadelphia Bank of this city. He has now found, however, that this source was not to be depended on, and will, I have no doubt, take immediate measures for payment.

There was also some delay in the payment of the draft on the Bank of Commerce N.Y., which had depended upon the Bank of Pennsylvania. It was caused by an erroneous impression, on the part of the latter Bank, that we were to send to them for the amount of the draft when due.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director

To/  
Hon R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Referring to the  
draft of \$15000, for  
the American Exchange Bank  
at New York.



Mint of the United States, 208  
Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1845.

Sir,

I send herewith the estimates of the appropriations which will be required for the Mint and Branch Mints of the United States, for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1847.

The grounds of the estimate for the Principal Mint are distinctly presented in one of the accompanying papers.

In the estimates for the current year, I thought it my duty to ask that the Clerks should be put on an equality as to their salaries. I again ask this act of justice, and I repeat the reasons which were then presented. — "The 7th section of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, states that ~~the~~ 'to the Assistants and Clerks such annual Salaries shall be allowed as the Director may determine, with the approbation of the President; provided, that an Assistant shall not receive more than \$1500., and



that a Clerk shall not receive more than \$1200.  
Now we have four clerks at the Mint; one receiving \$1200, - two \$1100 each, - and one \$1000. In this distinction there is at present no reason. All the clerks have duties of equal importance, requiring equal knowledge and attention; and they are all men with families. The maximum salary, of \$1200, is a very moderate one, and I therefore propose that they should all receive it, and I hope that this proposal will meet the approbation of the President".

The item of \$300, "for specimens of old and new coins to be reserved at the Mint", could have been much reduced, but for the unfortunate omission of the word coins in the corresponding item for the present year, and which made it unavailable for the most important of its objects.

One of the enclosed papers contains the <sup>70</sup>/<sub>100</sub> of the estimate for the Branch Mint at New Orleans as reported to me by the Superintendent. It is accompanied, however, by remarks, which, I think



justify me in the reduction which I have made, of  
\$2000, in the amount of the appropriation which  
had been asked for. I am assured, by the Officers,  
that the item for Machinery cannot be properly dis-  
bursed with, in the present condition of the Mint.

The estimate for the Branch Mint at Sah-  
waga corresponds with that sent to me by the  
Superintendent, and appears to me to be just and  
moderate.

It may, I think, be assumed, that the Branch  
Mint at Charlotte will be in full operation at the  
commencement of the next fiscal year, and there-  
fore the usual appropriations are asked for.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Hon. R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.

P.S. Duplicates of the  
estimates have been sent  
to the Register of the Treas-  
ury.



209

Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 13, 1845

Sir,  
I have the honor to enclose the Monthly Statement of the Deposits and Coinage, of the Mint and its Branches during October.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant  
R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Sir,  
Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



260

Mint of the United States.

November 21, 1845;

Sir,

I have been informed that a large amount of foreign gold coins which we have received from the Merchants Bank at Boston, was sent for recoinage here on your suggestions; and I have therefore thought that you would feel an interest in learning that the value of the gold thus sent, within a few weeks, reaches \$456,581.84.

Very respectfully,  
Your faithful servant,  
P. W. Patterson  
Director.

To  
Hon. W. L. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Mint of the United States,  
Nov. 21, 1845.

901

Sir,

Some time ago, I caused to be printed, for the use of the Officers and others interested, a pamphlet edition of the laws in force in relation to the Mint and its Branches. This edition having become exhausted, I have deemed it proper to prepare another for the press, and in order to ensure its accuracy, I have caused a careful examination to be made of the acts of Congress bearing upon the subject, in the course of which, there has arisen some difficulty with regard to the force and effect of the following laws. I, therefore, take the liberty, through you, of calling to my aid the judgment of the proper law officer of the Treasury Department, in a case where my ignorance may lead me to omissions and mistakes, against which I am especially desirous to guard.

The act of Feb. 9, 1793, §. 1, legalizes as a tender in payment of debts "Spanish milled dollars at the rate of one hundred cents for each dollar, the weight whereof shall not be less than seventeen pennyweights and seven grains, and in proportion for the parts of a dollar."



The act of April 10, 1806, §1, legalizes them in the same terms, including the parts.

The act of March 3, 1843, §2, legalizes "the Spanish dollar" [which are the milled] "dollars, and the dollars of Mexico, Peru, and Bolivia, of not less than eight hundred and eighty seven thousandths in fineness, and four hundred and fifty grains in weight, at one hundred cents each."

Are the laws of 1793 and 1806 in force, so far as to make the parts of the Spanish dollar legal tender in any case, or does the act of 1843 confine the tender to the dollar only of the quality therein mentioned; in other words, supply and repeal the others?

Again. By the same act of Feb. 9, 1793, §3, "All foreign coins, (except Spanish milled dollars, and parts of such dollars,) which shall be received in payment for debts due to the United States after the said time when the coining of gold and silver shall begin at the Mint of the United States, shall, previously to their being issued in circulation, be coined anew, in conformity to the act entitled 'An act establishing a Mint, and regulating the coins of the United States'."

Is this law still in force? I cannot find that it has been repealed, and am <sup>only</sup> led to believe so <sup>from</sup>.



the circumstance that it has been inoperative in effect. If  
it be really in force, deposits from this source, (including  
it should seem all foreign moneys but Spanish dollars,  
and, perhaps, their parts,) ought to have been constantly  
and largely made by the Government.

If you deem the matter of sufficient importance,  
I should be gratified if you would take the measures necessa-  
ry to obtain for me a reply to the questions which I have  
inferred to you.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant.

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Division of the Court,  
Philadelphia,  
Nov. 21/45.

Relative to the circum-  
stances of certain foreign  
crimes, and a statement  
regarding the proceedings  
of others.

W. E. H.

Enclosed letters  
to Mr. Lane  
of Philadelphia  
the Dec 21/45  
of the 21/45

M. 422. Nov. 21/45  
Prothonotary



Copies

272

Mint of the United States

Dec. 11th, 1845.

Sir,

It is one of the duties of this Mint to supply the Branches with dies for their coinage. These have heretofore been sent by mail, under the frank of the Secretary of the Treasury, but that privilege has now ceased. We have at this time, prepared and ready for transmission, the dies for 1846, and yesterday sent the first package to your post-office, and learn today, by a letter from you, that "it was charged at letter rates, as you knew no other postage applicable to them." This postage for the first of a series of about forty pairs of dies was \$9.60.

Now the dies in question are placed in cylindrical tin cases, in which there is nothing included which should subject them to letter postage, for there are (to use the words of the 526th article of the Post-Office Regulations) no letters in manuscript, or paper of any kind, by or upon which information is asked for or communicated in writing, or by marks or signs.

It appears to me, on the other hand, that the case comes naturally and fully under the conditions of the 530th article of the regulations, which is as follows: "On all pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, and every other kind and description of printed or other matter, (except newspapers, and except, also, circulars, handbills, and advertisements, as afore-



said, ) which shall be unconnected with any manuscript  
communication whatever, two and a half cents for every  
copy of no greater weight than one ounce, for any distance;  
for every additional ounce one cent; any fractional excess  
exceeding half an ounce to be charged as an ounce, but any  
excess less than <sup>half</sup> any ounce is not to be regarded."

With this view of the matter, I have respectfully to pray  
that you will reconsider the conclusion to which you were  
led yesterday, as to the charge to be made on these packa-  
ges, and that you will be so kind as to let me know  
your decision at as early a time as you can find con-  
venient.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,  
(signed) R. M. Patterson

Director.

To /  
Mr. Geo. B. Lehman,  
Post Master,  
Philadelphia.



Copy

173

R. M. Patterson, Esq.,  
Director of the Mint.

Post Office,  
Philadelphia, Dec. 12, 1845.

Sir,

Yours of yesterday has been received. The quotations you make from the regulations of the Post Master General are literally correct, but it seems you have overlooked altogether the law upon which these regulations are founded.

The dies you refer to are not mailable matter. The 15th section of the Post Office Act says - that "mailable matter", and "matter properly transmittable by mail" shall be "deemed and taken to mean, all letters and newspapers, and all magazines and pamphlets periodically published, or which may be published in regular series, or in successive numbers under the same title, though at irregular intervals, and all other written or printed matter, whereof each copy or number shall not exceed eight ounces in weight, except bank notes sent in packages or bundles, without written letters accompanying them; but bound books of any size shall not be held to be included within the meaning of these terms".

I presume you will conclude, on perusing this section of the law, that the dies do not come fully under the conditions of the 530th article of the regulations.

You will permit me to remark, that if any other person than the Director of the Mint, had presented 3 pounds of metal to be conveyed in the United States mail to New Orleans, it would have been rejected, of course; but as rep-



resisting a Department of the Government, from consideration of public convenience, and perhaps duty, I allowed them to go in our mail.

Under this view of the case I considered it my duty to charge full postage on the dies, and as your reference to the regulations on Postage is inapplicable to them, I cannot discover any reason why this decision should be reconsidered.

As we have no interest in the affair beyond the establishment of a correct principle, it will be prudent perhaps to refer it for decision to the Post-Master General.

(Your obt. Servt

(Signa) Geo. F. Lehman, P.M.



Unit of the United States,  
Dec. 13, 1845.

274

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you the enclosed copy of a correspondence between the Post Master at this place and myself, relative to the transmission of dies, by mail, to the Branch Mints. You will see that we differ as to the postage that ought to be charged.

I certainly show that the packages in question come distinctly under the letter of the 530th article of the Post Office Regulations; and with the charges there made I should be perfectly satisfied. But our Post Master takes the ground that the dies cannot be considered as "mailable matter" under the strict definition of the law, and hence infers, that if sent at all, they should be subjected to letter postage.

I beg that this important question may receive your attention, and that, if you so judge proper, it may be referred by you to the Post Master General. I cannot suppose that he will feel himself so far trammelled by the letter of the law as to refuse to us the use of the Mail, for a purpose so essential as the transmission of our dies, and if they are to be thus sent, as heretofore, I have to hope that he

will



will see that they come much more naturally under  
the conditions of the 530th article of the Post Office Reg-  
ulations, than under the 526th.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant

P. M. Patterson,  
Director.

To /

Hon. R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.



Mr. Wm. C. C. C. C.  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Postoffice Building  
Dec. 13, 1845.

Respecting the trans-  
mission, by the mail, of  
deci for the Branch Office,  
and the postage charges,  
thereon.

W.C.C.

Respectfully submitted to the  
Secretary -

M.R.  
16 Decr. 45.

Respectfully referred to  
the Associate General  
of the Western Association  
of Dec. 13, 1845.

Mr. 445 Decr 1845  
Western



268  
Mint of the United States,  
Dec. 15, 1848

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith  
a statement of the deposits and coin-  
age at the Mint of the United States and  
its Branches, in the month of November, 1848.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

No 10

Hon. Robert J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



P. O. Dep.

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 1845

270

Dear Sir,

I had the honor to receive your memorandum of today accompanied by the letter of Mr. Patterson the Director of the Mint - a similar application had been made to me for directions by the P. M. at Philadelphia - I enclose you a copy of my reply to him - as the dirs have been heretofore sent by mail, I would not enclose them now but directs them to be charged postage in

I have the honor to be  
respectfully

W. R. D. Sewth

Johnson

R. J. Walker Esq

Sec. of the Treasury



367  
Post Office Department

December 13<sup>th</sup> 1845.

P.M. Philadelphia, Pa

Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst.  
has been received enclosing the letter of the  
Director of the Mint. There is no question  
that the Dies or any thing of the kind are  
not mailable matter & as such should be excluded  
from the mails. I concur with you, however,  
in the suggestion, that, as they are for the govern-  
-ment, you might with propriety permit  
them to pass upon payment of postage by  
weight as mailable matter, but in no other  
case could it be tolerated.

(Signed) C. Johnson



278

Unit of the United States

Dec. 19th, 1845

Sir,

On the 7th of August last, Mr. Allen Leonard handed to me a note from you, asking "my views as to the Engraver of the Mint; as to the qualifications of the incumbent, as well as of any other applicant."

On the 13th of August, Mr. Leonard wrote to me to ask "whether I could not sustain his application unless he cut another die; stating that my refusal would oblige him to cut it: that what he had already done had been very expensive to him, and executing another would be much more so."

To this I answered, that "the only available evidence that I had of his skill and ability as a die-sinker was the medal of the elder Adams, and that I was quite free to confess that I did not think it such a work as would justify me in declaring to the Secretary of the Treasury that I considered Mr. Leonard such an artist as was needed for placing our coins upon a footing with the best of those executed in Europe." I then added, that "after this frank avowal, he would take such course as he might deem proper with regard to another exhibition of his skill; that



I had no right to present any terms to him; and that if it should unfortunately happen that the new work did not prove satisfactory, a judgment to this effect would prove peculiarly painful to me."

M<sup>r</sup>. Leonard determined to give another proof of his skill, and produced a die which presented a copy of the head of Louis Phillippe from the five-franc piece. The first impressions taken from this die were not entirely satisfactory to himself, but he afterwards altered it by copying more closely the original, and his last effort must be considered as very successful, and as proving him to be an excellent workman in this department of art.

It gives me great pleasure to make this statement, the justice of which you have the opportunity of judging, he informs me that impressions from the die have been sent to you. I am obliged, however, to call your attention to the fact that the work is nothing more than a copy, displaying much skill in mechanical execution, but its merit as a work of art depending upon the extraordinary excellence of the original.

This is not all we want at the Mint. We require an artist of taste, judgment, and inventive talent; a man who can devise as well as execute. Nay, the mechanical skill of the die-sinker is even a subordinate qualification, which we could almost entirely dispense with. If the artist, in making his design, be able to model it, in wax, so as to make a medallion of three or four inches diameter, in low relief, - all the rest can be done by ordinary workmen. A cast of the medallion is made in iron, and from this, with the aid of the "portrait-lathe", a die is cut, which is a fac-simile of the original, reduced to the size required.



of the best medals executed at the Mint, - one of Franklin,  
and the Indian Medals of President Tyler, - were struck  
from dies made in this way. The original dies of our dime  
and half-dime were also cut by the portrait-lathe, set in mo-  
tion by the steam-engine.

The present incumbent in the office of Engraver of the  
Mint, - W. Longacre, - has shown, as I think, more taste and  
judgment in making devices for an improved coinage here,  
than have been exhibited by any of his predecessors. He has  
shown, too, that he is quite competent to make the required  
models from his drawings, and he is now engaged in this  
work. I think that it will be successful, and that he will  
be able, if not interrupted in his labours, to accomplish the  
improvement in our coins which is so desirable. I hope,  
therefore, that his tenure of office will not be interfered with,  
until I am able to lay before you, and through you before  
the President, the evidences of his skill and taste.

Very respectfully,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,  
Director.

Hon. R. J. Walker,  
Secretary of the Treasury.



279

U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 10 Jan'y 1843.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit by this mail  
to your address, a portion of the Coins reserved at this Mint, for  
the annual assay which you will please to have forwarded to the  
Directors at Philadelphia.

Yours most respectfully

B. S. Lyath

Superintendent &c

Wm. W. Forward  
Secretary of Treasury  
Washington City



280

No. of Rep. March 2 - 43

Sir

I understand Col. Coit the  
present Superintendent of the Mint  
at Charlotte N. C. - has not returned  
to the Mint - but continues to reside with  
his family at Mangawadum a distance  
of some 60 miles - If this be so, and  
my information is such that I  
believe it to be true - I think he ought  
to be superseded - I beg to recommend  
for the appointment Green W. Caldwell  
who is a gentleman of integrity & capaci-  
ty & whose appointment I doubt not  
would be highly acceptable to our  
community -

I have the honor  
to be

very respectfully,  
R. M. Lawrence

His Excellency  
John Tyler



An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint  
at Charlotte, N.C., for the half-year ending June 30, 1843.

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:

The Superintendent,

\$ 1,000.

The Assayer,

750.

The Keeper,

750.

One Clerk,

500.

\$ 3,000.

For Wages of Workmen

1,750

\$ 4,750.

Note.— The Superintendent writes: "I have asked for no appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the half-year ending June 30, 1843, for the reason that I believe the Appropriations heretofore made will be sufficient for the purposes of the Mint until that period."



282

U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 19 January 1844.

Sir

I have the honor of forwarding by this day's mail to your address, a small box containing one half of the coins reserved at this Mint for the annual assay, which I will thank you to transmit to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia - The other half of the coins will also be forwarded in a day or two.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

G. W. Caldwell

Superintendent

To the J. C. Spencer  
Secy of Treasury  
Washington City



U. States Branch Mint

Charlotte N.C. 24 January 1844

283

Sir

On the 19 Inst, I had the honor of forwarding  
to your address, for the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, one half  
of the coins reserved for this Mint for the annual assay. — Today I send  
the other half, which you will be pleased to have forwarded to the Director  
as the first half were.

I have the honor to be

Yours Alt. Servt

A. W. Caldwell

Superintendent

J. C. Spencer

Secy Treasury

Washington City

superintendent



M E K  
Sir

Charlotte N.C. 28<sup>th</sup> July 1844. 284

The melancholy duty devolves upon me of informing you of the total destruction of the Mint Building by fire, yesterday morning about day light. The fire originated in the Coining Room, but how it could have got there is not ascertainable, as there had been no fire in that end of the Building since the last Coinage which was about 10 days ago.

The front and side Walls are still standing but in a very tottering condition, and will soon fall. I am unable to state at present, how much damage has been done to the Machinery, owing to the body of the Building being filled with rubbish, into which it was all precipitated, but I believe as far as I am able to judge that the Engine & Bailey are uninjured. All the Books, Papers, Coins, and Bullions, with the exception of some Silver, which was in a state of solution in the Refinery, and the most valuable furniture belonging to the Mint have been saved. But almost all my own private property belonging being up stairs has been destroyed.

All the Out buildings have been preserved. No blame is attached to the officers or men of the Mint, the common opinion being, that it has been the work of some vile incendiary.

If upon examination it should be found that the Machinery is not too much damaged, we think that at a small expense, the Brick Kitchen with some additions may be fitted up to carry on the operations of Coining, while the Appy Apartments with their appurtenances are very little damaged, until Congress convenes, should it meet with your approbation.

I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia by this same mail.

I have the honor to be very respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

G. W. Caldwell  
Superintendent



285

Assayer's Office U.S. Branch Mint  
Charlotte Carolina 29. Nov. 1843

Sir,

I perceive that the Chamber of Commerce has asked for a Mint in the City of New York. Will you permit me to invite your attention to the establishment of an Office of deposit for assay, alone, — regulated by the same rules which apply to the deposit & assay of Bullion at the Mint — in order to obviate the inconvenience imported of the precious metals may be subjected to there?

The value of deposits being ascertained by a prompt assay — a transferable certificate, payable at the Mint in Philadelphia, would be easy when negotiable. The Bullion being from time to time transmitted to the Mint for coinage. — Or, in case of demand, for exportation, the Bullion, itself, might be paid out in bars or ingots — without coinage — under the assurance of its correct standards & value, by assay. — And, in this manner, a convenience be offered, without unnecessary expense, either to the Government or the exporter.



An Assayer and Treasurer, with a clerk &  
three experienced workmen would be  
sufficient to conduct such an establish-  
ment, with a moderate contingent ex-  
pense.

I confess I should be very much pleased  
to have charge of the assay department.  
I will not occupy your valuable time  
by further intension of this subject, &  
trust you will excuse the impudence  
which induces me to present it to your  
notice.

I am with great respect

Yrs. Obedt. Servt.

J. H. Gibbon.

Hon. S. C. Spencer

Secretary of the Treasury

Washington City.



An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint at  
Charlotte, N. C., for the year ending June 30, 1844.

For Salaries of Officers & Clerk:

The Superintendent,

\$ 2,000.

The Assayer,

1,500.

The Coiner,

1,500.

One Clerk,

1,000.

\$ 6,000.

For Wages of Workmen,

3,500.

For Comage expenses, including ma-  
terials & implements, fuel, repairs, & Wastage  
of gold,

\$ 1,200.

For House expenses, including lighting,  
cleaning, & repairs,

200.

For Office Expenses, including Sta-  
tionery & postage,

100.

1,500.

\$ 11,000.



McK

286  
U. States Branch Mint  
Charlotte N.C. 17<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1845.

Sir

By instructions from the Director of the Mint  
at Philadelphia, I have the honor of forwarding to your address  
the coins of this Mint reserved for the annual assay to be had  
at Philadelphia on the 10<sup>th</sup> prox: Will you be kind enough to  
forward them to him upon receipt.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

G. W. Baldwin

Superintendent

G. M. Bibb  
Secy of the Treasury  
Washington City



WCK  
G.W.  
288  
Washington City 12 June 1845

Sir,

In order that the Branch Mint in North Carolina may be placed in a condition to resume its operations - it appears indispensable that the services of one or more of the officers who have been educated to conduct the practical details of their operations should be retained to superintend the internal structures of the building. For the supply and arrangement of the materials required for the various processes in the operative appointments include the most serious and complicated portion of the plan of reestablishment.

The suspension of their salaries necessarily suspends the duties of officers who are alone cognizant of the internal peculiarities of the Mint - whereas - it is possible, by their assistance, to complete an important part of the internal economy. Simultaneously with the erection of the building.



The state of the roads in winter - the sickness which prevails in the autumn of every year - and the remote position of the Mint - make it of importance for the officers in charge to anticipate the numerous articles which are required many of which must be ordered manufactured & collected at a distance.

It is desirable that the apparatus for the purposes of melting and assaying should be in activity as soon as possible - various preparations and details must precede their completion - or the practical functions of the Mint may be very much retarded - while they are anxious to be supplied for by those interested in mining.

I trust therefore you will consider it advisable to retain my services and not suspend my salary.

I have the honor to be  
very respectfully  
Your obedient servant

J. H. Gibson.

Hon. R. J. Walker  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



1842

Dahlonga



check  
directed by

Branch Mint United States  
Dakota January 1<sup>st</sup> 1842

Sir,

289

I have the honor to transmit  
to you a package containing Eleven half and  
one quarter Eagle, amounting to fifty seven Dollars  
and fifty cents and beg the favor of you to  
forward the same to Doct. R. M. Patterson, Director  
of the mint at Philadelphia.

I have the honor  
To remain Very Respectfully  
Yours Ob. Servt.  
Paul Rognier  
Super<sup>r</sup> & Treasurer

The Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



Branch Mint United States  
Dahlgren's Landing 5<sup>th</sup> 1842

Sir,

291

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing seven half Eagles, amount-  
ing to thirty five Dollars, which I beg you to  
forward to Genl. R. M. Patterson, Director of the  
Mint at Philadelphia.

I have the honor  
to remain Very Respectfully  
Sir, Your Obedt. Servt.  
Paul Reppner  
Super & Treas.

To the Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City



291.

Washington City  
28 July 1842.

Mr. Doubled  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Navy

Sir,

I have received a letter from the Director of the Mint at Baltimore stating that in consequence of the great increase of the deposits of gold for coinage this year being nearly double that of 1841, they will be required to cover the contingent expenses & wastage instead of \$1000 as recommended & inserted in the Bill. As the bill is now pending and the additional sum will not be allowed in 1843, the recommended by the Department I submit the matter to you.

With great respect

Respectfully also Yours etc Wm  
requests me to ascertain  
from you, if Treasury notes  
sent them for payment on the interest should be  
look on the way if the loss is to fall on the holder



393  
Branch Mint United States &  
Daklonga Septem 3 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose the  
Oath of Office and Bond of William E. Derrick,  
whom I have appointed Clerk to this Branch  
Mint in the place of Saml. S. Blair, resigned.

I have the honor  
to remain Very Respectfully  
Yours Ob<sup>d</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Paul W. Rignol  
Super<sup>r</sup> & Treas<sup>r</sup>

To  
The Honorable  
J. W. M. Cullloh  
Comptroller Treasury Department  
Washington City



CHK

293  
Branch Mint United States  
Dahlgren 18 October 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you a package, containing fourteen half Eagles, reserved for the General assay, which I beg of you to forward to Doct. R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia.

I received a few days since from Doct. Patterson, copies of charges brought against me by three individuals, of this plan; I have sent him my answers to the charges; but, as some time may elapse before you receive his report, I will take the liberty to state briefly, that I have not derived the most remote gain or profit by purchasing mint certificates for the Insurance Bank of Augusta, I did it as an act of favor & friendship to the Bank, believing at the same <sup>time</sup> that it would be advantageous to the depositors of the Bank to receive the Amount of their deposits as soon as assayed in good specie bills (for the Bank bills were not & are not depreciated as stated in the charges) for the small sum of  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. which went to the Bank, instead of waiting sometimes two or three weeks for the coin, or go to some persons in Town and give 2 per cent. With our small means, which are only two thirds of the deposits



allowed to the U. S. Branch Mint by the Government  
it is impossible to pay deposits promptly, you will  
easily perceive that I am correct in my statement if you  
take into view the delay that we experienced in  
obtaining the articles we need from Philadelphia  
by obliging the Bank, I thought I would have oblige  
deposits also. As soon as I heard that charges  
were making against me I sealed up the notes  
and have sent them back to the Bank. It is for  
that I was detained the coin from deposits of  
it was ready.

I beg you will excuse the trouble  
taken to make these few remarks

I have the honor

To remain with great Respect

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servt

Paul Reppner  
Super & Genl

The Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



Ela

Branch Mint United States  
Dahlonia 29<sup>th</sup> October 1842

29<sup>th</sup>

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing, fourteen half Eagles  
for the General Assay, which I beg the favor  
of you to transmit, to Doct. R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint, Philadelphia.

I have the honor  
to remain, Very Respectfully,  
Your most O<sup>b</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.  
Paul Rospignol  
Super<sup>t</sup> & Treas<sup>r</sup>

To the Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



296  
Branch Mint United States  
Dahlgren 5<sup>th</sup> Novem 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing fourteen half Eagles  
reserved for the General assay, directed to  
Doct R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint  
at Philadelphia, which I beg the favor  
of you to transmit to him.

I have the honor  
to remain, Very Respectfully,  
Sir, your most Ob. Serv<sup>t</sup>

Paul Hognier  
Super<sup>t</sup> & Treas<sup>r</sup>

To the Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



Branch Mint United States  
Daklonega 8 Novem 1842

297.

Sir,

Some individuals of this place  
having attacked my reputation by charges which  
were sent to you and referred to Doct. Patterson,  
Director of the Mint, and being informed that  
he made his report on the 27<sup>th</sup> ulto. It would  
be very gratifying to me indeed, (as I am still  
ignorant of your decision in the case) to know  
your opinion on the subject. If you would  
therefore, Sir, honor me with an answer to  
this letter, it would be received with much  
gratitude by the one who has

I have the honor to remain,  
With Great Respect,  
Your Most Obedt.  
Paul Rognon  
Superd Int

The Honorable,  
Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington —



McK

298

Branch Mint United States  
Dahlonga 12<sup>th</sup> Novem 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing fourteen half Eagles,  
directed to Doct. R. M. Patterson, Director of  
the Mint, Philadelphia, which I request  
the favor of you to forward to him.

I have the honor  
to remain, Very Respectfully,  
Your most Obedt. Servt.

Sam Mosignol  
Asst. Cashier

To the Honorable,  
Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington.



W.K.

299  
Branch Mint United States  
Dahlgren 15<sup>th</sup> Novemb. 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing Thirteen half and  
two quarter Eagles; addressed to Doct.  
R. W. Patterson, Director of the Mint, which  
I request the favor of you to forward  
to him.

I have the honor  
To remain, Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedt Servt  
Paul Reppignoe  
Superd Seal

To the Honorable  
Walter Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



MSK

360

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dakota Decem<sup>r</sup> 15. 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, containing nine half and six  
quarter Eagles, reserved for the General assay,  
which I beg the favor of you to forward  
to Doct. R. M. Patterson, Director of the  
Mint at Philadelphia.

I have the honor  
To remain, Very Respectfully  
Your Most Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Paul Rognon  
Super<sup>t</sup> & Treas<sup>r</sup>

To the Honorable  
Walter Forward,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City  
D. C.



300 1/2

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dahlgren 20<sup>th</sup> April 1845.

Sir,

In concurrence with Doct. Patterson, the Director, I have granted to Doct. Farnum, the Assayer, leave of absence, for a few weeks, which I hope will also meet with your approbation. During his absence, Mr. Todd, his Assistant will discharge the duties of Assayer, and should any error occur, it will be corrected on his return, as a slip will be served from each deposite.

For nearly three years, Doct. Farnum, has hardly been absent from the Mint an hour.

The following is an extract from a letter received from Doct. Patterson, dated March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Doct. Farnum, needs, I have no doubt, some relaxation from his arduous duties, and he certainly has earned a sabbath. I hope that it is his intention to visit Philadelphia.

Sir,

I have the honor to be,  
with great Respect  
Your Most Obedt Servt  
Paul Rogniol  
Super<sup>t</sup>.

To the Honorable  
John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington.



301  
Philadelphia, May, 10. 1843.

Sir,

Circumstances of recent occurrence induce me to hasten the execution of a design, which I have long contemplated, of resigning my office of Assayer of the United States Branch Mint at Dahlonega in Georgia.

I accordingly hereby most respectfully present to you my resignation of this office, to take effect either on the present day, or, if it be deemed desirable, on the appointment of my successor.

I am very desirous that the step which I now take may produce as little embarrassment as possible in the business of the institution to which I have so long been attached;



and I shall cheerfully accede to any  
arrangement that may be deemed ne-  
cessary to prevent even a temporary  
suspension of its' operations, provided  
that I be not required to relinquish  
Dahlonaga.

I have the honor to be  
Sir, with great respect  
Your obedient servant  
Joseph W. Fanning  
Attorney of the  
Dahlonaga B. Mining Co.

To Hon. John Tyler,  
President of the  
United States.



Marionetta, Georgia.

May 29. 1848.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose  
my official Bond and oath as Superintendent  
of the U. S. Branch Mint at Dahlonega, together  
with the Bond & oath of Dr. A. M. Ruffel whom I  
have selected as "Clerk" of said Institution in ac-  
cordance with the terms of the law establishing the  
Branch Mints.

Although I write from Marionetta, whither I have  
come for the purpose of executing my bond, my  
address is still Dahlonega, Georgia.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully Your Obedt Servt  
M. A. Foster.







304

An Estimate of the Expenses of the Branch Mint at  
Savannah, Georgia, for the half year June 30. 1843.

|                                                                                              |           |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| For Salaries of Officers & Clerk:                                                            |           |           |
| The Superintendent,                                                                          | \$ 1,000. |           |
| The Assayer,                                                                                 | 750.      |           |
| The Coiner,                                                                                  | 750.      |           |
| One Clerk,                                                                                   | 500.      |           |
|                                                                                              |           | \$ 3,000. |
| For Wages of Workmen                                                                         |           | 1,440.    |
| For Coinage Expenses, including Materials,<br>& implements, fuel, repairs, & Wastage of gold | \$ 590.   |           |
| For House Expenses, including lighting<br>cleaning, & repairs,                               | 50.       |           |
| For Office Expenses, including Stationery<br>& postage, -                                    | 35.       |           |
|                                                                                              |           | 675.      |
|                                                                                              |           | \$ 5,115. |



308  
Dahlgonega. Ga Aug 12, 1843

Sir

Enclose my official bond and  
hope it will be acceptiabl

I am Sir Respectfully  
yours

Isaac L. Todd

The Honorable  
J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury

Benjamin L. 19<sup>th</sup>

Mr. 10. 1842.



MCK

305  
Branch Mint of the U. S.  
Washington, Sept 21. 1843.

Sir.

The package enclosed herewith contains  
Ninety Six Quarter-eagles of the year 1843.  
They are the commencement of my remittances  
for the general assay at Philadelphia  
in February 1844.

I have to request that you will  
forward them to Mr. R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the U. S. Mint. Philadelphia

Very respectfully

Your obedient Servant  
Miss S. Cooper  
Supt.

Wm. I. C. Spencer  
Supt. of the Treasury  
Washington City.



307

U. S. Branch Mint  
Saklonga. Georgia Aug 24. 1843

Sir,

In reply to your objections to the official  
Bond of Mr. A. M. Russell, Clerk of this  
Branch, I have to state, that he has  
been directed to execute another without un-  
necessary delay. A delay of some weeks,  
however, will be necessary to enable him to  
visit another part of the Country, where  
the persons reside upon whom he relies as  
sureties upon his new Bond.

I am, very respectfully  
Yours Robert Swank  
Wm. K. Cooper  
Superintendent.

Rev. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Original of Mr. Russell's Bond  
Saklonga. Georgia. Aug 24. 1843



Branch Mint of the United States.  
 Dahlonega. Aug 31. 1843.

Sir.

In answer to your communication covering  
 Dr. Dammun's complaint of my inattention to the  
 payment of the balance of his salary as  
 Assayer, I have the honor to state, that  
 I have received from the Treasury Department  
 the funds for that purpose, and am prepared  
 to liquidate his claim forthwith.

I have received from the Director of the  
 Mint no application for the balance due  
 Dr. D., nor does he stand in need of any "aid  
 in procuring a statement" further than he  
 may furnish himself with, by presenting his  
 claim in proper form, either in person or by  
 an authorized agent.

I have the honor to be  
 Very respectfully, Your  
 Obedt. Servant  
 Albert R. Cooper  
 Asst. Dir.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
 Secretary of the Treasury  
 Washington City.



U. S. Branch Mint. Hallam's Co.  
Sept 23. 1843.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose herewith  
a package containing twenty eight quarter  
eagles. They are intended for the next  
Annual assay, for which purpose I have to  
request that you will forward them to the  
Director.

Very respectfully  
Your obedient Servant  
Wm. B. Chapman  
Supt.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



United States Branch Mint  
 Dahlonega Ga. Sept. 30. 1843.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose twenty four (24) half eagles for the annual assay at Philadelphia, being my third (3<sup>d</sup>) remittance for that purpose.

I will give you notice of the number of each remittance, and by this means you can discern whether they miscarry, in which case please notify me; this plan will be of less trouble than a separate acknowledgement of each package. I expect to forward them at least weekly until the end of the year.

I have the honor to be  
 Very respectfully  
 Yours / Obdient Servant  
 Wm. S. Cooper.  
 Sept.

Mrs. J. C. Spencer  
 Secretary of the Treasury  
 Washington City.



MSK

To the Hon. John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington

311

Sir,

At the request  
of Mr. Todd Spayer of the Mint at Dahlonega  
in this State, I enclose you his Bond, the same  
having been approved of by the district Judge.  
If I have erred in sending it to your depart-  
ment, you will confer a favor by giving  
it the proper direction.

I have the honor to be  
yrs. respy.  
Solomon Cohen

Savannah Geo.  
October 1<sup>st</sup> 1843



McK

312

United States Branch Mint  
Hahlonges Oct. 9. 1843.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose twenty  
four (24) half eagles for the next  
annual assay - being my fourth  
(4<sup>th</sup>) remittance for that purpose.

Very respectfully

Gour. Obad. Sewall

Mary S. Cooper

Supt.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



313

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dahlanega, Ga. Oct<sup>r</sup> 22. 1843.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith  
twenty four (24) half eagles for the  
next general assay, being my Sixth  
(6<sup>th</sup>) Remittance for that purpose.

Very respectfully  
Your obed. Servant  
Wm. H. W. W. W.  
Sup.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Oct 2. 1843.  
Dahlanega, Ga.



514

Branch Mint of the United States  
Cahoonaga La. Nov. 9. 1845.

Sir, I have the honor to enclose herewith  
Twenty four (24) Half-eagles for the next  
annual assay. being my eighth (8<sup>th</sup>)  
remittance for that purpose.

Very respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servt  
Wm. P. Cooper  
Supt.

Wm. A. C. Munn  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



315  
U. S. Mint Oahlong  
December 9. 1843.

Sir.  
I have the honor to enclose herewith  
24 half eagles for the Annual assay,  
being the 9<sup>th</sup> package sent for that purpose.

Respectfully  
Your obed. Servt.  
Wm. T. Cooper  
Supt.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City



check

310.

Branch Mint of the United States.  
Columbic December 30. 1843.

Sir,  
I have the honor to enclose herewith 45 half eagles and 8 quarter eagles for the "next" Annual Assay" it being my 10<sup>th</sup> and last remittance for that purpose during the year 1843.

I beg leave to ask your attention to my letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. asking for the amount appropriated for the Support of the Mint during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 1843.

If the second bond of the Clerk of this Mint has been found satisfactory, and free from the objections stated against the first - it is the request of the Directors that the originals be returned.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servant  
Alvin F. Carpenter  
Superintendent

Dec. 30. 1843.  
check  
To Mr. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



317

Branch Mint of the U.S. States,  
Sahlonga Co. March 2. 1844.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose a package of  
silver coins for the Director of the Mint.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

J. W. Cooper

Superintendent

Hon. A. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



318

R. Mint of the U. States.  
Sahleniga Co. April 10. 1844.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose, herewith, a package  
of assay coins, for the Director of the Mint.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Alfred C. Cooper.

Supt.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Alfred C. Cooper  
Sahleniga Co.  
March 2. 1844



519

Pr. Mint of the U. States,  
Savannah, Ga. May, 4. 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith a  
package of Assay Coins for the Director of  
the Mint of the United States.

Very Respectfully

Your obedient Servant

Amos B. Cooper  
Supt.

Hon. J. C. Spencer,  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.



321

Branch Mint of the U. States,  
Sablonega, Va: June 4. 1844.

Sir, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a  
package of assay coins for the Director of the  
Mint of the U. States.

Very respectfully  
Your obedient Servant  
Moses L. Cooper  
Superintendent

The Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington City.



An Estimate of the Expenses of the  
Branch Mint at Dahlonega, Georgia, for the year  
ending June 30, 1844.

|                                   |          |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| For Salaries of Officers & Clerk. |          |          |
| The Superintendent,               | \$2,000. |          |
| The Assayer,                      | 1,500.   |          |
| The Coiner,                       | 1,500.   |          |
| One Clerk,                        | 1,000.   | \$6,000. |

|                       |  |        |
|-----------------------|--|--------|
| For Wages of Workmen, |  | 2,880. |
|-----------------------|--|--------|

|                                                                                                         |          |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|
| For <u>Coinage Expenses</u> , including<br>materials & implements, fuel, repairs,<br>& wastage of Gold, | \$1,180. |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--|

|                                                                       |      |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--|
| For <u>House Expenses</u> , including<br>lighting, cleaning, repairs, | 100. |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--|

|                                                                |     |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| For <u>Office Expenses</u> , including<br>stationery & postage | 70. | 1,350. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------|

|  |  |           |
|--|--|-----------|
|  |  | \$10,230. |
|--|--|-----------|



320

Senders to Directors of Dahlonega Ga July 27. 1844  
the Mint - 3 Aug.  
Sir

I enclose my official bond and  
hope it will be acceptable  
I am  
Sir

respectfully  
your obedient servant  
George L. Todd

The Honourable  
Genl. W. B. Bibb  
Secretary of the Treasury.



Dr. Mint of the United States,  
 Philadelphia. Pa. August 8. 1844.

Sir;

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a  
 package of Coin, from this Mint, for the next  
 annual assay.

Your obedient servant

Henry Cooper.

Superintendent.

Com. Secy. M. Bibb  
 Secretary of the Treasury  
 Washington City.



324

Branch Mint of the United States,  
Savannah, Ga. Oct. 3. 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith a  
package of gold coins for the next annual  
assay at Philadelphia,

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Henry R. Casper

Superintendent

Hon. George M. Bibb  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Handwritten a package of  
coins for annual assay

was a small  
package of gold coins



323

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dahlonaga, Georgia, Sept. 4. 1824.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a package of Coins  
for the next annual Assay, which you will please forward to  
the Director of the Mint.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

*Mary T. Cooper.*  
Superintendent.

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,

Secretary of the Treasury.

Washington City.



326 .

Branch Mint of the United States,  
Dahlongega, Georgia, Novem. 6. 1844

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a package of  
coins for the next annual Assay, which you  
will please forward to the Director of the Mint

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

*Wm. F. Cooper*  
Superintendent & Treasurer

Hon. Geo. M. Bibb,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington city.

Enclosed  
Sept. 20. 1844.  
Transmit a package of  
Assay Coins.



327

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dahlonaga, La.

December 3rd, 1844.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the enclosed package of  
Coins for the next Annual Assay at Philadelphia.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

*Amey F. Cooper.*  
Superintendent

Hon. Geo. M. Bill

Secretary of the Treasury, U. S.  
Washington City.



328

Branch Mint United States,  
Dahlonaga Georgia January 2. 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a  
package of assay coins, for the next annual assay.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

*Mary F. Fisher*  
Superintendent.

Honbl. Geo. M. Bibb,

Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington City.



Branch Mint of the United States,  
Dahlonaga, Ga. June 5th 1845.

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will  
forward the accompanying package of Assay Coins to  
the Director of the United States Mint.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

*Wm. F. Cooper*

Superintendent.

Hon. R. J. Walker.

Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington City.

*Received of the  
Branch Mint of the United States,  
Dahlonaga, Ga. June 5th 1845.*



Branch Mint of the United States,  
Dahlonga, Georgia. February, 1st 1845.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith  
a package of Assay Coins, for the next annual Assay.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Wm. F. Chapman  
Supt.

Honl. Geo. M. Bill,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington City.

Transmit a package of  
Assay Coins.

check

7.50  
20.00



33/  
Tahleoga Ga Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1848.

Sir

Sam

respectfully.  
your obedient servant  
Thos L Todd

your obedient servant

Isaac L. Todd

Hon George M. Bibb

Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City

Books sent to Comptroller

Transmits a package of  
Assay Coins

Richardson & Co. 108 N. 2nd St.  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Feb. 10, 1875.



R. Mint of the United States,  
Savannah, Ga. May 23. 1845.

Sir,

A petition for my removal from the office of Superintendent of this Mint, and the appointment of Dr. L. I. Singleton in my place, will reach the President about the time this comes to hand.

In opposition to the object of that petition, I have to request that you will bring to the notice of the President the memorial in my favor enclosed to you & signed by Messrs. Colquitt, Cobb, Hild, Lumpkin & Haralson of the Georgia delegation. This I hope will set me right politically, and as to my official qualifications, I am permitted to refer to the Director of the Mother Mint at Philadelphia.

If (as I do not suppose) a long array of names is a reliable means for accomplishing such a purpose, I can supply them without difficulty and in such list would be included the names of nearly all most interested in the good management of the institution; I allude to the Depositors of Gold Bullion.

I am, Very respectfully  
Your obed<sup>t</sup> servant

R. J. Walker  
Secretary of the Academy  
Washington City.

Henry S. Cooper  
Superintendent.



Branch Mint of the United States,  
 Dahlonega, Georgia, March 29. 1845

Sir,

Understanding that a petition has been forwarded to you for the appointment of Joseph S. Singleton to the office of Superintendent of this mint, and consequently for my removal from the same position, it is hoped that a few remarks from me upon the subject, will not be deemed obstructive or inappropriate.

It is set forth that Mr. S. was removed for opinion's sake, whether that is the case or not, I am not able to say - it is certain, however, that I did not supersede him in the office - and although it is not becoming in an applicant to parade his political opinions as a reason of preference, perhaps it may not be improper, as an evidence of the political standing of all concerned, to refer you to a memorial on file with the Secretary of the Treasury, in my favor, signed by Messrs. Colquitt, Cobb, Lumpkin, Stiles & Haralson of the Georgia delegation, all of whom utterly disavow the movement of Mr. Singleton.

For five months Mr. S. has been labouring to procure signatures to his petition, in which time the number of refusals has, by far, exceeded the



number of Signers; by great perseverance, however, by sending his memorial to distant parts of the State, entirely uninterested in the welfare of the mine and unacquainted with the manner of its management, he has procured a long array of names.

As there are no charges alleged against me of any description whatever, as I am sustained by a majority of the Georgia delegation, as the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia (who is the official head of all the Mints) has kindly borne testimony to my capacity as an officer, and as I know no reason why I should be removed from office, I have thought it inadvisable to trouble the President with petitions in my favor - but should it be deemed necessary, I would meet with no difficulty in presenting a memorial which would far outnumber the one presented by my antagonist, and which would embrace the names of nearly all the Miners and depositors of gold Bullion who are most concerned in the efficient administration of the affairs of the Mint.

I am Very respectfully  
Your obedient Servant  
Almy T. Cooper  
Superintendent

Rec'd Ex. 7

James K. Polk

President of the United States.  
Washington City.



334

Branch Mint of the United States  
Dahlonaga, Ga. April 3. 1845.

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith a  
package of Coins to be forwarded to the Director of the  
United States Mint, for the next annual assay.

Very respectfully

Your obedient servant

*Henry F. Scher.*

Superintendent

Hon. R. J. Walker

Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

347.05  
81.34  
95.84

46 52.423  
5242 92.42  
9242 431 81  
387  
940

27.367 - amount



Branch Mint of the U. S.  
Dahlgonega, Ga. May 3rd 1845.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith package  
N<sup>o</sup> 4 of Assay Coins to be forwarded to the Director of  
the United States Mint, for the next annual Assays

Very respectfully,

Your obt. Servant,

Henry Schreyer  
Sup<sup>t</sup>

Hon. R. J. Walker

Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington city.

Drawn into a package of  
Assay Coins

Assay Coins  
Dahlgonega, Ga. May 3. 1845



New Orleans 25 February 1840

Recd of a letter from H. C. Comstock  
addressed to The Honorable Robert  
Carlton Nicholas

G

ENC

seen a  
the Branch  
press you  
the Treasurer,  
The  
and for this  
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of the  
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kept in his  
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thereat

③ of the Branch New  
March 3. 1845

McK



Extract of a letter from H. C. Hammett,  
addressed to The Honorable Robert  
Carlton Nicholas, Senator in Congress -

New Orleans 25 February 1840

Sir

Mr Kennedy has mentioned to me, that he has seen a letter from you, touching the propriety of the Superintendent of the Branch Mint in this City residing in the building - I beg to address you, and to state to you, that the duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer, the Melter and Refiner, and the Coiner are very great - The amount of Bullion & Coin, always in their hands, is large, and for this reason it was determined that these three Officers should have dwellings in the Mint, so as to be in the immediate vicinity of their charge, to be watchful of its safety -

The Treasurer is the Main-Spring of the Establishment - On him hangs the whole business of it - The Bullion Books and accounts, as well as those of ordinary expenses, are kept in his Office under his control - It is with him alone, that the deposits are made by the public, and with him alone that the various Officers of the Mint account, each one having accounts with no one, other than the Treasurer.

It is he who pays all the depositors in American Coins when made, and makes the disbursements of ordinary expenses. The three Officers I have named, are often, and almost always at their Offices, early in the morning and late in the Evening, and for their mutual convenience, as well as for the purpose of better protecting the trust for which they are responsible, the present arrangement has been made, with the sanction of the Director at Philadelphia.

The

United States Branch Mint  
 at New Orleans  
 Feb. 25. 1840



The Superintendent has no pecuniary responsibility attached to him. He does not interfere with the detailed operations of the Mint, but has a general superintending care and direction over the whole, not requiring however his continued presence at the building.

---

Extract of a letter from the Honble R. C. Nicholas to H. C. Lamme, dated  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1840

Dear Sir

Yours & Mr. Kennedy's explanation as to the delay of the Report, the operations of the Mint, and your residence in the Institution are perfectly satisfactory.

It may be proper to remark that there are two other dwellings in the Mint. but the Treasurer's is the only family residing there.



U. S. Branch Mint 336  
N. Orleans, January 9. 1842

Sir,

I send a package by this day's Mail. Another will be put in the Mail of to morrow and a third in that of the next day. These three packages comprise the whole number of assay pieces taken from the deficiencies of coins made at this Mint during the year 1841, and I respectfully request that you will forward them, under your frank, to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Walter Forward  
Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treasury  
Washington City

Yours obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. M. Starnes

Sup<sup>t</sup>

P. S. We have rec<sup>d</sup> lately thro the Treasury Department, two boxes containing dies.

no coins received  
Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>

Rec<sup>d</sup> since 3 par  
a found



U. S. Branch Mint  
N. Orleans April 28. 1842

McK

338

also by  
C D resp<sup>d</sup> Courts

Notwithstanding the uncertainty whether any provision will be made by Congress, for the expenses of this Branch Mint for 1842, I have, in the absence of any instruction from you, allowed the operations of the Institution to go on, under an injunction to its different Officers, of the strictest economy in their respective Departments, authorizing the purchase of such articles only as are immediately required, and under the best arrangement that I have been able to make. I shall continue to do so until otherwise directed, and have the honor to request, that, should our appropriation for this year be passed, you will, at your earliest convenience, remit us the sum of \$3200, which you are aware is required, for that portion of the expenses of the last quarter, still unpaid -

I am Sir, very respectfully  
Yr. obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

J. M. McKim

Wm. M. Forward

Secy of the Treas<sup>y</sup>

Sup<sup>t</sup>



Elu Keep this till Secy returns -

339

+ The United States

To Horace B. Cammacker Jr

For services rendered in safe keeping and  
disbursing public moneys under the act of  
the 4 July 1840. from 30 June 1841. to 30 June 1842  
at which latter date there is still a considerable  
balance remaining in my possession to the  
Treasurer of the U. States under that act.  
Say one year. . . . . \$1000.

Branch mint  
New Orleans 30 June 1842.



340

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans  
Oct 2, 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to request, that you will send to the Director of the Mint in Philad<sup>a</sup>, under your frank, the box which you will receive by this day's mail, and two packages, one of which I will forward to-morrow, and the other on the next day. They contain the assay coins, reserved from deliveries made at this Mint this year, up to the late suspension of the operations thereof.

I am Sir

Very resp<sup>t</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

Hon Walter Forward

Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treas<sup>y</sup>

J. M. McKim

J

Sup<sup>t</sup>



Statement of the Coinage, at the Branch Mint New Orleans  
from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1842. to this date, inclusive.

|          |        |                         |                           |
|----------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1842     |        |                         |                           |
| December | Gold   | \$176,000. <sup>5</sup> |                           |
|          | Silver | 124,000. <sup>5</sup>   |                           |
| 1843.    |        |                         |                           |
| January  | Gold   | \$—                     | \$300,000. <sup>5</sup>   |
|          | Silver | 24,000. <sup>5</sup>    |                           |
| February | Gold   | \$453,000. <sup>5</sup> | \$24,000. <sup>5</sup>    |
|          | Silver | 88,000. <sup>5</sup>    |                           |
| March    | Gold   | \$463,000. <sup>5</sup> | \$541,000. <sup>5</sup>   |
|          | Silver | 37,000. <sup>5</sup>    |                           |
| April    | Gold   | \$380,000. <sup>5</sup> | \$500,000. <sup>5</sup>   |
|          | Silver | 68,000. <sup>5</sup>    |                           |
| May      | Gold   | \$665,000. <sup>5</sup> | \$448,000. <sup>5</sup>   |
|          | Silver | 109,000. <sup>5</sup>   |                           |
|          |        |                         | \$774,000. <sup>5</sup>   |
|          |        |                         | \$2,587,000. <sup>5</sup> |

W. S. Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's Office May 31<sup>st</sup> 1843.  
A. B. Cammiller  
Treasurer.

Some 2 weeks of January were  
lost in making the annual settlements.



342

Branch Mint United States  
Dahlonga 7<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1843

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. respecting  
the encrate of the Government Deposits in this  
Mint.

In answer to your enquiry  
about a Draft on New-York, I believe I can  
convert it in Specie in a short time without  
loss. If you transmit me the Ten Thousand  
Dollars in small Drafts of the denominations  
of \$500 & \$1000 Dollars, Depositors of Bullion,  
who trade with Augusta & Charleston will be  
glad to take them. Treasury Notes would answer  
fully as well.

I have the Honor  
Sir, To remain, with much respect,  
Your Most Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>

To the Honorable  
W. Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington.

Paul Rognon  
Sup<sup>t</sup> & Treas<sup>r</sup>



McK

343

Branch Mint United States  
Dakota go 10<sup>th</sup> June 1843

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit,  
herewith, a package containing six half  
Eagles reserved for the General Assay, which  
I beg the favor of you to forward to  
Doct. R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint.

I take the liberty of enclosing  
an other petition in my behalf

I have the honor  
Sir, To remain with great respect  
Your Most Obedt Servt

Paul Reznor  
Super<sup>r</sup> & Genl

To the Honorable  
W. Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City



374

Washington City  
13<sup>th</sup> Aug. 43

Sir

Enclosed I send you two letters in  
regard to the Complaints of the Superintendent of  
the Branch Mint Dahlonega Geo. Publick Opinion  
them being much excited.

Respectfully,

Mark A. Cooper

Respect

Walker Forward

Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> 43.



check

Sir,

375  
Branch Mint United States  
Dakota 14<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1845

I have the honor to enclose  
a package, directed to Doct. R. M. Patterson,  
Director of the mint, containing six half  
eagles, reserved for the General Assay, which  
I beg the favor of you to forward to him.

Sir, I have the honor  
To remain, with much respect,  
Your most Ob. Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Paul Reppigno  
Super<sup>r</sup> & Co

To the Honorable  
W. Forward  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.  
D/C.



ack

376.  
U. S Branch Mint  
New Orleans, Jan. 26, 1843

Sir,

I respectfully request, that you will transmit to the Director of the Mint in Philad<sup>a</sup>, under your frank, a package of assay coins, which, by this day's mail, I send to your address.

J. Oberlin

Assayer

Sup<sup>t</sup>

Hon. W. Forward

Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treas<sup>y</sup>



Mr. C.

Dear

Sir,

Branch Mint United States  
Dahlgren 14 March 1843

Agreeably to the desire expressed  
in the communication of the Honble W. Fox and  
of the 7th ulto. I have the honor to state, that I  
have converted into Gold Coin, the Five  
Thousand Dollars of Treasury Drafts sent to  
me by the Department to enable me to pay  
depositors, of Gold Bullion, more promptly.  
If the State of the Treasury will admit, it would  
be of great assistance to this Branch Mint to  
receive the additional amount as stated  
in the communication referred to above.

I have the Honor  
Sir, To remain, Very Respectfully,  
Your Most Obedt Servt.  
Paul Rognoe  
Superintendent

To the Honorable  
John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington

M. W. Fox 1843.  
on file



McK

348

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office 1 April 1848.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20 March instant advising me respecting two drafts of One hundred thousand dollars each which were received at the same time from the Treasurer of the United States.

I beg to say that your wishes in this matter will be conformed to. Neither of the drafts were paid to day. but I have received from the Bank of Commerce, on which one of them is drawn, a Bill of lading for one hundred thousand Dollars in Coins. with a request that I will apply the amount, when received, to payment of the one on that institution. -

I am,  
with great respect  
Sir your most Obedt<sup>t</sup>  
H. C. Sumner  
Treasurer

To the Honorable  
J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury

M - 166  
March 22



McK  
msd

3 29

Wm L. Branch M<sup>rs</sup> New Orleans  
Treasurer's Office April 30<sup>th</sup> 1843.

Sir?

By this day's mail I have forwarded to the Treasurer of the United States my Account of money received & paid by me, for account of the Government, in which there appears two sums received ~~from~~ on account of the Planter's Bank of Mississippi amounting to \$12,000. The Gent<sup>l</sup> states that they had been instructed to deposit the amount with me & although having no directions from you on the subject, I received it, believing that it would facilitate the bringing of the money into the Treasury. An acceptance for \$16,000 due on the 7<sup>th</sup> Proximo, - has been left with me for collection, the amount, when received, to be applied in the same way.

I am Very Respectfully,  
Yours Obedt<sup>ly</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
H. C. Hammett  
Treasurer

Honorable J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury



350

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office June 8. 1843.

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that  
I have to day received at this Branch Mint, one hun-  
dred and thirty two packages of specie, landed  
here from the U. S. Brig of war Dolphin, under the  
charge of P. A. Southall Esqr. The amount is  
stated to be Two hundred sixty Two thousand nine  
hundred thirty four  $\frac{79}{100}$  Dollars. We are now engaged in  
counting it and expect to finish in the course of tomorrow  
morning.

I am with great respect  
and esteem  
Yours most obedt servt  
H. C. Hammett  
Jr. N.

To the Honorable

J. C. Spencer

Secretary of the Treasury



354

An Estimate of the Expenses of the  
Branch Mint at New Orleans, for the half-  
year ending June 30, 1843.

|                                                                                                               |          |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:                                                                            |          |           |
| The Superintendent,                                                                                           | \$1,250. |           |
| The Treasurer,                                                                                                | 1,000.   |           |
| The Coiner,                                                                                                   | 1,000.   |           |
| The Assayer,                                                                                                  | 1,000.   |           |
| The Melder & Refiner,                                                                                         | 1,000.   |           |
| Two Clerks, each \$600.                                                                                       | 1,200.   | \$6,450.  |
| For Wages of Workmen.                                                                                         |          | 10,000.   |
| For <u>Coinage Expenses</u> including<br>materials & implements, fuel, repairs<br>& wastage of Gold & Silver. | \$9,475. |           |
| For <u>House Expenses</u> including<br>water-rent & taxes, repairs, lighting,<br>cleaning, & watching.        | 4,400.   |           |
| For <u>Office Expenses</u> , including<br>stationery & postage.                                               | 200.     | 12,075.   |
|                                                                                                               |          | \$28,525. |



352

Branch Mint of the United States  
Cahoon, July 7. 1843.

Hon. J. C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City.

Sir,

Immediately on the receipt of your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> ult. returning my Oath of office and that of my clerk for alleged non-conformity to the law, by reason of said Oaths not being taken before "a judge of the United States," I proceeded to Savannah (about 400 miles from this place) and subscribed the Oath before Judge John C. Nicoll - I required Mr. A. M. Russell my clerk to repair thither on my return. The Oaths and Bonds are now in the required form and I have the honor to enclose them for your approval.

For proof, however, of the legality of ~~the~~ former Oaths, dated May 29. 1843, which I also enclose herewith. I beg leave to ask your attention to Sec. 5. of "An act supplementary to the act entitled 'entitled' 'An act establishing a mint, and regulating the coin of the United States' approved January 18. 1837." This Section requires the officers and clerks to take their oaths before some



Judge of the United States, or Judge of the Superior  
Court, or any Court of Record of any State.  
Sec. 38. of the same act. repeals  
all laws inconsistent with this act. Now  
Sec. 3. of "An act to establish Branch Mints of  
the United States" approved March 3. 1835 is  
the one, by which you have governed me. I  
submit whether the later act of 1837, from  
which I have quoted, does not justify me.  
I will also remark that Mr. Rossignol and  
my predecessor and his clerk, took their oaths  
before a State Judge.

I also return the Official Bonds properly  
authenticated by the District Judge.

The question of the Oaths is invested  
with the greater importance on account of  
the salaries commencing with the date of  
the Oaths, as I am informed. Am I at  
liberty to charge for my salary from the  
date of my first Oath, which I have at-  
tempted to show, comes within the legal  
prescriptions.

I am, Very respectfully  
Yours, &c. &c. &c.  
Wm. T. Cooper

Sup. Ct. U. S. Pr. Mins  
Oakley



358

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office Augt 9. 1843.

Sir:

By the present mail I send, under  
cover to you, one parcel addressed to Doctor  
R. M. Patterson, Director of the U. S. Mint  
Philadelphia. It is one of seven packages  
which contain the coins for the annual assay  
reserved from the coinage at this Mint in the  
present year, which I have been requested to  
forward to you at intervals of a few days,  
with a request that you would be pleased to  
~~please~~ have them sent on to the place of  
their destination.

I have the honor to be  
with great respect,  
your very obedient <sup>N.</sup> servant

H. C. Hammond  
Treasurer

To the Honorable  
John C. Spencer

Secretary of the Treasury.



354

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office 7 May 1844

Sir

I have forwarded by the mail  
today a small parcel directed to you. It  
contains the coins reserved at this branch mint  
during the month of April for the annual assay.  
I take the liberty of requesting you to have it  
forwarded on to Dr R. M. Patterson, Director  
of the Mint. Philadelphia.

With great respect

I am

Your very Obs Seward

W<sup>m</sup> C. Hammond

Treasr

To the  
Honorable John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury.



3551  
Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office 11 Jan'y 1844.

Sir

By this mail I send a small tin box for the Director of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia.

It is under cover to you and contains part of the coins for assay reserved from the deliveries of coins at this Branch Mint during the past year.

Two more packages will be forwarded, in like manner, by different mails, in the course of a few days, and I have to request that you will be pleased to forward them. -

With great respect

I have the honor to be  
your very Obedt servant

H. C. Lamson  
Treasurer

To the Honble John le Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury



356

Branch Minn New Orleans  
Treasurer's office 8 April 1844

Sir

Enclosed herein I have the honor to  
hand you my account with the U. States as a  
depository under the law of 1840. Showing a balance  
in my hands of \$6,700.20. For this sum drafts  
have been issued on me, but they have not yet been  
presented for payment.

With respect, I am,

Sir your very faithful  
and obd servant  
H. C. Hammack  
Treasurer

To the Honorable  
John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury.



An Estimate of the Expenses of the  
Branch Mint at New Orleans for the year  
ending June 30, 1844.

|                                                                                                                  |           |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| For Salaries of Officers & Clerks.                                                                               |           |           |
| The Superintendent,                                                                                              | \$ 2,500. |           |
| The Treasurer,                                                                                                   | 2,000.    |           |
| The Coiner,                                                                                                      | 2,000.    |           |
| The Assayer,                                                                                                     | 2,000.    |           |
| The Melder & Refiner,                                                                                            | 2,000.    |           |
| Two Clerks each \$1,200.                                                                                         | 2,400.    | \$12,900. |
| For Wages of Workmen                                                                                             |           | 20,000.   |
| For <u>Coinage Expenses</u> , including<br>materials & implements, fuel, repairs,<br>& wastage of Gold & Silver. | \$14,950. |           |
| For <u>House Expenses</u> , including<br>water - rent & taxes, repairs, lighting,<br>cleaning & watching,        | 8,800.    |           |
| For <u>Office Expenses</u> , including<br>stationery & postage,                                                  | 400.      | 24,150.   |
|                                                                                                                  |           | \$57,050. |



MeR

358

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's office October 29. 1844.

Sir

Enclosed with the present I send a  
letter for the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia  
containing Specimen in Coins &c. which I take  
the liberty of asking you to forward to him.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully

Your most obedt. Servant

H. C. Hammack

Treasurer

To Honorable

Geo: M. Bibb

Secretary of the Treasury.



389

Branch Mint new Orleans  
Treasurer's office Decr 7. 1844

Sir

I have forwarded to you by the  
present mail a small tin box containing  
coins received for assay, from the coinage at this  
branch mint for the two past months. which  
I take the liberty of asking you to forward to  
Dr Patterson director of the mint in Philadelphia.

With much respect

I have the honor to be

Yours very ob. servt

H. C. Munnell

Treasr

To the Honorable

George M. Bibb

Secretary of the Treasury.



380

Washington City, January 2. 1845

Sir;

When the U. S. Branch Mint, located in the City of New Orleans, was erected, one wing of the Centre Building was set apart as a dwelling for the Superintendent, and the original drawings of the architect, was altered in accordance with this object. At the time of my appointment to that office, in Oct 1839, the Treasurer of the Institution, Mr. H. C. Cammack, for whom no similar provision had been made, by my permission, took possession of the premises intended for me, and has occupied them since that time. Finding now in need of them myself, a request that I have made of him, to deliver them to me, has met with a refusal. I therefore respectfully lay the matter before you for your decision, and have the honor to subscribe myself, Sir, your obedient servant

Yours for Mr. Bitt

Secy of the Treas.

Respectfully,  
J. M. Ramsey

Sup. U. S. B. Mint N. O.



McK

Write to the

Treasurer Mr. Gammon

that possession must be

delivered without delay to

the Superintendent of the Trust

at N. O. of the apartments

Set apart for the Superintendent

or on failure so do, or to

State sufficient cause for

refusal; ~~where~~ the proper

measures will be taken

to correct the transgression

Yours

M. B. Davis  
McKean  
3/4/5-



311  
Washington January 4<sup>th</sup> 1845.

Sir,

The apartments, in the Mint at New Orleans, of which, as its Superintendent, I am about to take possession, require some repairs. According to the best of my recollection, the sum which, in the last five years, has been expended upon them, does not exceed one hundred and fifty dollars, and that has been, principally, in paint, of which, in that climate particularly, buildings occasionally stand in need, for their own preservation. I beg leave further to say, that the carpet, on the floor of my office, has been in use, during a period considerably longer than that above mentioned, and is now, almost entirely worn out. I therefore, with a view of having this item in the Treasurer's accounts, passed, at the proper time, without any difficulty, ask of you the allowance of a sum, not exceeding three hundred dollars, to be appropriated as above stated, and am very respectfully,

Yours Geo. M. Bitt.  
Secy of the Treasury

J. S. T. Sen<sup>r</sup>  
J. M. Ramsey Secy. U. S. B. M. A. O.



Branch Mint New Orleans

Treasurers office January 20 1845

302

Sir

I have received your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant and will comply with the directions contained in it respecting the apartments in the mint now occupied by me. I have informed Mr Kennedy that I will surrender them to him as soon as I can procure a dwelling into which to remove my family which will require some little time.

Not having been apprized by Mr Kennedy of his intended application to you in regard to these premises, and the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia being familiar with all the circumstances under which I occupy them, I did not deem it proper for me to trouble you in anticipation with explanations. I beg leave now to state that I did not ~~take~~<sup>go into</sup> the dwelling by "permission" of the Superintendent, but as a matter of course in consequence of his having declined positively to have any thing to do with it. It was certainly with his approbation as well as that of the Director at Philadelphia and was considered

by



both of them, as well as our fellow officers here, a more desirable arrangement in consequence of the more immediate duties and responsibilities of the Treasurer.

The house at the time was barely habitable. Certainly, <sup>far</sup> from comfortable. It has since been made, by me, a very desirable residence - and many conveniences added and the grounds very much embellished, the two last mainly at my individual expense.

If not too late I take the liberty of requesting you to reconsider your instructions in this matter and most respectfully beg to refer you to Dr Patterson for any further explanation you may require.

I also take the liberty to enclose extract of a letter which I wrote to the Honorable R. C. Nicholas in 1840, and, from his answer.

I deem it almost unnecessary to say that your final decision will be complied with by me most cheerfully. and regretting very much to trespass so much on your time. for which I beg to apologize. I am with assurances of

respect & esteem

To the  
Hon: Geo M. Bibb & J

Yr. most obt St  
J. C. Cammack



U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans  
February 7<sup>th</sup> 1845.

323

Sir,

In a letter which I received on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November last from the Treasurer of this Institution, upon the subject of the residence in this Mint, which you have asked him to relinquish to me, upon my application, the said Treasurer uses the following words:

"And <sup>now</sup> he, speaking of D. Patterson having declined to act, and having recommended a reference to the Secretary of the Treasury, I shall be glad to find that you have asked his opinion, which I am not disposed to attempt to retard or influence."

On my return from Washington, I found a letter from the same Officer, in which he says, that he will cheerfully comply with your directions, as soon as he can find a house suitable for the accommodation of his family; and again, a few days ago, I received another communication from him, in which he fixes the 10<sup>th</sup> of the present month, as the day on which I can commence moving, and adds that I can have possession of the whole premises by the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. I had made all my arrangements accordingly, for giving up the house I at present occupy, and anticipating no opposition, had caused many articles to be removed and deposited in my office, as they could not there interfere with him -

Under such circumstances, I was not at all surprised, at receiving this morning, for the first time,



information, that Mr. Cammuck had expressed to you, his regret  
at not having been allowed a hearing in the case, and had  
some days ago, without any notice to me, sent to the Depart-  
ment a communication, in which he urges the grounds  
upon which he should be allowed to retain possession of  
the building in question - I know not, Sir, what the  
grounds are, but the only position he can take, having  
the semblance of any thing like plausibility, is, that  
to his office is attached a large pecuniary responsibility.  
I hope, on that point, to satisfy you, and now, beg leave  
to lay my case before you.

1<sup>st</sup> I had the honor of submitting to you, personally, a  
certificate from the Chief Corner of the Philadelphia  
Mint / Mr. Peale / who planned the building, showing  
that the apartments, occupied by Mr. Cammuck, were designed  
by him, in consultation with the Director, as a residence  
for the Superintendent, and that the original drawings of  
the Architect had been altered accordingly.

2<sup>d</sup> = Mr. Bradford, my predecessor, occupied three apart-  
ments, during his administration of the affairs of our  
embassy, a period, I think, of upwards of two years.

3<sup>d</sup> = When, at the time of my appointment, I permitted Mr.  
Cammuck to take possession of them, it was without con-  
sulting either the Director or the then Secretary, of the  
and the only authority which he received to that effect,  
was conferred upon him, by me, self alone. I have con-  
sequently, never been divested of my right to the residence  
and should be at liberty to call on him for it, at any moment.

4<sup>th</sup> = I do not consider the pecuniary risk of the Treas-  
ury equal to that either of the Mint, or Refinery, or other  
all the Bullion that is brought to the Mint, is with



for Courage, and must be put to mettle and cast into  
vigors, it remains much longer, in the hands of the two  
Officers last named, than in those of the former. We have a  
large Government fund, the object of which is to enable  
him to pay off Depositors with promptness, and there is really  
no receipt, for their remaining any considerable time  
in his Vaults. In the Philadelphia Mint, where  
business, until the last year, has always been much  
larger than our's, there are ~~no~~ residences, at all, for any  
of the Officers. - Our Mint is well guarded, and the ar-  
- rangement of Mr. Cammack, based upon his pecuniary res-  
- ponsibility, is deprived of all its force, by the fact, that  
during the whole of our suspension last Summer, which  
continued about three months, with a heavy amount ne-  
- cessarily remaining in his Vaults as we were not coming,  
he was absent from the City, and his residence in the  
Mint deserted.

5<sup>th</sup> Experience has shown me, that we, having given up  
to the Treasurer, the apartments designed by the Director  
for the Sup<sup>t</sup>, has had a tendency to diminish, not only in  
the minds of many persons doing business with us, but even  
in the eyes of some of the Subordinates employed in the  
Mint, the importance of the Office which I hold. I can  
- not be in it as long, nor as often this day as I would  
wish, and the consequence has been, that in some instances  
authority has been exercised by others, properly belonging to  
myself alone -

I think it my duty to state, in conclusion, that  
when I mentioned to the Director, that I had permitted the  
Treasurer to take possession of my apartments, he replied  
that he thought I had done the Institution a service.



This reply, deprived me of the portion of my right, and I now have cause, I think, to believe, that in making that remark Dr. Patterson's intention was, only, to show that he had no disposition to find fault with what I had done - When I saw him in Philadelphia, he appeared to attach much weight to the 3<sup>rd</sup> ground taken by me in this letter -

After offering you, Sir, an apology, for the length of this communication, I hope that I have satisfied you of the importance and propriety of these apartments being occupied by the Head of the Mint, and that your order for their immediate relinquishment to me, will be made absolute -

I am very respectfully,  
 Your O<sup>b</sup>l<sup>t</sup> Servant  
 J<sup>o</sup> M<sup>r</sup> McKim, Sup<sup>t</sup>.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Geo. M. Bibb  
 Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treas<sup>y</sup>

Mem<sup>o</sup> -

Feb<sup>y</sup> 7, 1845

Reason why the  
 Sup<sup>t</sup>, and not the Treas<sup>y</sup>,  
 should reside in the Mint,  
 with the request that they  
 be immediately laid before  
 the Secretary.

To Mr. McKim, Sup<sup>t</sup>.  
 U. S. Branch Mint



30.4

U. S. Branch Mint

New Orleans, Feb 12. 1845

Sir,

I have the honor to inform, you that  
a letter just rec<sup>d</sup> from the Treasurer of  
this Institution apprizes me, that he has vac-  
ated the dwelling in the Mint in conformity  
to instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very respectfully

J. S. Sen<sup>r</sup>

Hon Geo. M. Bibb

Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treas<sup>y</sup>

J. S. Sen<sup>r</sup>  
Sup



McK

353

U. S. Branch Mint  
New Orleans 5 March 1845.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter of the 20th ultimo.

The dwelling in the mint lately occupied by me, was surrendered to the Superintendent on the 12th day of last month and he is now in the occupancy of it. I stated, in my letter to you that I would cheerfully abide by your decision and I do so. I am sorry that this difference of opinion between the Superintendent and myself has arisen. but it is now at an end; and in justification of the course I have pursued, I take the liberty to remark that I was not aware that the apartments in question, had been designed in the plan of the building for the Superintendent. It does not appear so on the one attached to the

Honorable Robert S. Walker.

Informing you that  
the Department of the  
Mint is now  
in possession of the  
building.



on file in this City  
Notarial Contract for building, - nor do I  
believe that this fact was known to the Director  
at Philadelphia - who was advised of, and  
sanctioned the arrangement by which I was  
possessed of the residence and who, when I  
was in Philadelphia last summer, after the  
Superintendent had written to him, seemed not  
to be aware that the dwellings had been  
designed for any particular officers, nor  
did he consider it expedient to make a  
change. I therefore believed that there was no  
impropriety in awaiting your decision in the  
matter.

I am with great respect  
Your very obedient Servant  
H. C. Cammack

To the Hon. Geo: M. Bibb.

P. S.



B

do I  
to the Dir. S. I. I presume that you must have misunderstood  
of Mr Kennedy in supposing him to have stated that 45.  
to I was he gave me occupation because I was then  
when married, and he was unmarried. -

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cover

Honorable Robert C. Walker.



3 PB

Branch Mint New Orleans  
Treasurer's Office Mar 15. 1845.

Sir

I have today mailed a small tin box  
containing the Coins reserved at this mint during the  
months of January and February for the annual  
assay, directed to the Director of the Mint at Philad<sup>a</sup>  
under cover to yourself. which I take the liberty  
of asking you to forward.

permit me, Sir, to take this opportunity  
of expressing my gratification at finding myself in  
official correspondence with you - and to assure  
you of the respect and consideration with which  
I have the honor to subscribe myself your

very obt & faithful Servant

H. C. Munnick

Treasurer

To The

Honorable Robert J. Walker.



367

U.S. Branch Mint N. Orleans  
Treasurer's office 5 May 1845

Sir

I have forwarded to your address, by  
the present mail, a small tin box, containing  
the assay coins at this branch mint, which  
have been reserved from the coinage for the month  
of April, which I take the liberty of asking you  
to forward to Dr Patterson, Director of the Mint  
at Philadelphia.

I have the honor to be, with  
great respect, your very obedient servant.

H Cammuck  
Treasurer

Honorable Robert C. Walker  
Secretary of the Treasury



308  
W. S. Branch Mint  
New Orleans May 16. 1845

Sir,

I addressed, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March last, a communication to the Director of the Mint of the U. S., a copy of which is herewith enclosed - Dr. Patterson, on the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, wrote me a letter, from which I make the following extract:

"I thank you for reminding me of the application you made to me at Washington. I do not pretend to have any special authority to interfere in the case, but if I had, I would not withhold my approval of your proposed changes in the Building, provided that the expense do not exceed your estimate of \$200,000."

My unwillingness, in the first instance, to trouble the Department with this application, induced me to lay it before the Director, supposing him to have jurisdiction of the case, and, after a conference with him on the subject. I must beg leave, however, to amend it in one particular - I find, after consulting with experienced Workmen, and with every regard to economy, that my estimate



is too low, by about One hundred dollars -

You perceive, Sir, what would have been the dangers of Dr Patterson, had the matter rested with him - I trust that your more intimate knowledge of our climate, in the Summer, will lead to the same indulgence.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

J. O. Sargent

M<sup>r</sup>. R. I. Walker

Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treas.

Washington



160ps  
Washington March 10<sup>th</sup> 1845.

Sir,

Permit me to avail myself of your presence in this city to ask your concurrence in two improvements which I am desirous of making at the Mint in N. Orleans.

On the principal front of the Building, there are three iron gates, one of which is entirely unnecessary. This last one I propose to remove to the railing which faces the Eastern Wing, immediately opposite the entrance to the residence occupied by the Superintendent and Comr. - Besides the fact that no possible inconvenience to the public can arise from this arrangement, there will be, on one side, but two gates to guard, instead of three, and on the other, the spot to which I propose to make this removal, is within the station, which has been assigned to one of the members of the Night Watch.

The other improvement consists in an outside balcony, to be attached to the two dwelling above mentioned.

Our climate, during nearly half the year,



Your sanction — The entire expense, attending the execution of what is herein submitted for your consideration would not exceed two hundred dollars.

D. F. M. Patterson

Washington at

For  
G. Ober-Servant.

Signed *Samuel May*



J. M. Ramee,  
Sup't U. S. Branch Mint  
New Orleans  
May 16. 1845

Concurrence of Sec'y  
asked, in two instruments  
at this Mint  
app. R. J. M.

Should the Secretary concur, it  
is believed that the expense may  
be paid, without inconvenience,  
out of the app<sup>n</sup> for the current or  
next fiscal year, for the  
contingent expenses of the Branch  
Mint at New Orleans -

Respy Submitted

S. M. McKean

M. 184 May 24  
McKean



W. H. C.

519

New Orleans May 28. 1845

Sir.

I have the honor to advise you that I, yesterday, transferred to my successor, the office which I lately held of Treasurer of the U. S. Branch Mint in this City, and paid over to him, under the warrants of the Superintendent, the balances which appeared against me on the books: and I forward by the present mail, to the first Auditor of the Treasury, my final accounts with the Government.

I am very respectfully  
Your most obt servant  
H. C. Hammett

To The Honorable  
Robert S. Walker.



380  
San Blas, 2 June 1845.

Sir.

The accompanying letter is from a very intelligent officer of the Branch Mint of San Blas.

I consider the suggestion therein made, as deserving the attention of the Treasury Department. Unless the direction indicated, be given to the mints of the Eastern States, the operations of the mint will probably fall very much short of those of the two last years.

Very Resp.

Yours M<sup>ch</sup>lly.

John Pickle

Wm. R. S. Walker

Secretary of Treasury.



376  
N. O. Bolmont 17 May 1845

Dear Sir,

Our prospect of coinage for the present year is very poor, owing to a combination of circumstances - such as foreign exchange being very high; some overtrading last fall - payments to be made in Europe by some of the indebted States - & the purchase of Mexican dollars by an agent of the Russian Government, who gave 18¢ premium for them -

Yet if the Secretary of the Treasury would direct all the foreign coins to be sent to the Mint from the Custom House & Post Office - it would help us out considerably - while the operations of the Treasury department would not thereby be delayed, nor would any loss accrue to the Government. I wrote to you on this subject just at the close of the last session of Congress, & I presume you had left



Washington before it arrived there

Very respectfully

Wm. V. Serr

Wm. J. Davis



Mr. Ward as officer  
of the N. M. Mint offer-  
ing suggestions relative  
to the coinage.

May 13<sup>th</sup> 1845.

Ill / K

Under direction  
of the N. M. Mint  
this to be done  
so far as can  
be without loss

The silver to be

sent into quarters  
& the good into  
half & quarter

Engle

1845





Dear John Mitchell  
Enclosed a letter  
from W. P. Hunt are  
offices of the A. C. Guild  
offering suggestions re-  
specting the carriage,  
June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1845.

MS. A. 334 June 19/45  
W. P. Hunt



U. S. Branch Mint  
New Orleans June 4. 1845.

Sir,

I send, by this mail, to your address, a  
box of Assay Coins intended for D. Patterson.  
You will oblige me, forwarding it to him -

Respectfully

Hon: R. J. Walker  
Sec of the Treas

J. S. Smith  
Indemmed  
Sup.

Washington -

Enclosed a letter  
from W. F. Hunt and  
others of the U. S. Mint  
offering suggestions re



373  
U. S. Branch Mint

New Orleans June 18<sup>th</sup> 1845.

Sir;

In obedience to the direction, contained in your  
letter of the 3<sup>d</sup> instant, / which I did not receive  
until this morning / I will cause the sum of  
\$30,000, being the amount of the transfer draft  
therein mentioned, to be, "as rapidly as may be"  
converted into dimes and half dimes.

Respectfully,

From R. J. Walker  
Sec. of the Treas.

Robert Sen  
J. M. Slemmons  
Rep.

Washington.



United States Branch Mint New Orleans

U.S. Treasury Office Aug<sup>t</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1846

374

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup>, rec<sup>d</sup>.  
this morning, I beg leave most respectfully  
to refer you to the enclosed "duplicates", say  
No. 1. My letter to W. Selden, Treasurer U.S., dated 13<sup>th</sup>  
June, acknowledging rec<sup>d</sup>. of the Transf. Warrant  
for \$30,000, alluded to in your letter above ment<sup>d</sup>.  
No. 2. My letter to same, dated June 25<sup>th</sup>, advising  
payment of that Warrant, & that the am<sup>t</sup>.  
\$30,000 had been placed to his credit on the  
books of my office, and  
No. 3. Statement of my ap<sup>t</sup> with the U. S. which  
was enclosed, with other statements, in a letter  
to W. Collins Esq., First Auditor, dated 18 July  
& the rec<sup>d</sup>. of which was acknowledged by the  
office in a letter to me dated 26<sup>th</sup> Idem. --  
Should there have been any informat<sup>y</sup> in the  
manu<sup>script</sup> of rendering my ap<sup>t</sup> of this transaction  
I beg that it may<sup>be</sup> pointed out that it may be  
corrected.

I embrace this opportunity to refer you  
to a letter, which was addressed to you by



M. Kennedy Esq., Superintendent of this Branch  
Mint, under date the 6th June last, in  
relation to the payment of my salary from  
the 23<sup>d</sup> of May to the 30 June, by predecessor  
W. Cammack Esq., having paid himself  
for the same period, altho' he transferred  
his office to me on the 27th May. - I mention  
the 23<sup>d</sup> of May, that being the day on which  
I executed my bond to you Mr. Cammack  
noting that I was ready to receive the office  
from him. -

The Amount, specifically appropriated  
for "Salaries of Officers & Clerks" for the quarter  
ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, having been exhausted  
by ~~W.~~ Mr. Cammack's payment to himself,  
there remained no funds under that head  
to pay me. - The question I would respectfully  
submit for your decision is, Whether Mr. Cammack's  
payment to himself was a correct one, if so  
from what source I am to be paid, if not  
what steps are necessary to recover from Mr.  
Cammack the amount overdrawn by him.

I remain Sir

To/

Hon. R. S. Walker  
Secretary of the  
Treasury

Very respectfully

Yrs. mo. obdt. servt.

John R. Macmurdo

Treasurer.

B. M. D. 10



"Duplicate." No. 1.

375

United States Branch Mint, New Orleans,  
Treasurer's Office 13th June 1845

Sir,

By this day's mail, I have received your letter  
of the 30th inst., and with it, "One Transfer Draft No. 158  
of the Bank of Louisiana for Thirty Thousand Dollars,  
\$30,000, payable on the 30th inst. in Mexican Dollars or  
Silver Bullion." - The amount when paid, will, as directed  
be placed to your credit in this Institution.

Very respectfully  
Yours, &c. &c.  
John R. Macmurtre  
Treasurer.

Wm. C. Cullen, Esq.  
Treasurer of the United States,  
Washington City



"Duplicate," No 2

398  
United States Branch Mint, New Orleans  
Treasurer's Office June 21st. 1845

Sir,

Confirming my respects of 13th. inst. I now  
have to advise you, that the transfer draft No. 158 therein  
referred to has been paid, and that the amount thereof, viz  
Thirty Thousand Dollars / \$ 30,000. / has been passed to  
your credit in the books of this Office,

Very respectfully,  
Yours Obedt. Servt.

John R. Macmurdo  
Treasurer.

J. Wm. Selden, Esq.  
Treasurer of the United States,  
Washington City



McKean

376

52.

Sir,

Bank of Commerce in New York

Mar. 31. 1870.

I have to advise that Thomas W. Ludlow's acceptance  
for \$2,324 <sup>44</sup>/<sub>100</sub>, transmitted of your letter of 15<sup>th</sup> Inst, was yesterday  
paid, and the amount credited the Treasurer of the United  
States as "a repayment by Messrs Jan<sup>l</sup> Crommelin & Sons."

I am, Sir, very respectfully

Yours ob<sup>l</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Geo. Curtis Esq.

Hon. Walter Howard

Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington



How. John C. Spencer  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington

New York 20<sup>th</sup> November 1843

377

I have been instructed by our Chamber of Commerce to bring to the notice of your department, the want of a branch of the Mint of the U. S. in this city.

The position and general commercial advantages of this port, necessarily attract to it the greater portion of the coin and bullion imported into the United States: the only important exception being the specie received from Mexico at New Orleans. New York being also the centre of the Exchange operations of the Union, bullion and coin placed in deposit here, can ordinarily be rendered available at any other of our commercial and trading cities, whereby are avoided the delay, expense, and risks of transportation.

If therefore we possessed the means of coining bullion and receiving foreign monies, Government itself might often experience the convenience which a Mint would afford, at a port where two thirds of the whole revenue is collected, while the general commerce of the country would be benefited by the facilities it would impart to all financial operations.

I beg leave accordingly to introduce the subject to your attention, and respectfully to ask for it, your favorable considerations, and should you agree with us in our opinion of the necessity of the establishment of a Branch Mint at our port, we would solicit your recommendation in its favor in the Annual Treasury Report, as our Memorials to Congress hereafter, would have a better chance of success, if fortunate enough to be preceded and aided by a favorable appeal from such a source.

signed James D. P. Ogden  
Pres<sup>t</sup> Chamber of Commerce



# Memorial.

To the Senate and House of Representatives, of the United States.

The Memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, respectfully represents:—

That to give stability and permanency to the currency of the United States, it is essential that it should be as far as practicable exclusively National.

That the immediate conversion into American Coin of the Specie which is imported from foreign countries, would have that effect; and as there is at this time in the United States an extraordinary supply of foreign Gold and Silver, the moment is most favorable for the adoption of measures calculated to give the Country a Specie currency of a National Character, adequate to its wants.

That a great proportion of the Specie on deposit in the Banks of New York and Boston, consists of foreign Gold, principally British Sovereigns, which although by Congress made a legal tender at a certain fixed value, ought not, even if they could, be substituted for American Eagles, as a currency for these United States.

That the risk, expense and inconvenience of transmitting foreign Coin, to a distance from the port of importation, are serious obstacles to, and have hitherto prevented the receipt of more than a fractional part of that which arrives in this Country, as an evidence of which American Gold Coin now commands a premium in this City, while it forms but about one twelfth of the whole amount of Specie in the Banks here.

That ever since the existence of a Branch of the United States Bank at New Orleans, its business shows the importance of extending a similar convenience, to the two prominent ports on the Atlantic Coast, which receive most of the Specie sent from Europe to the United States, and where at present the accumulation of foreign Coin is estimated at about thirteen millions of Dollars.

That in view of these considerations your Memorialists would urge your honorable bodies to take such measures for an early establishment of a Branch of the United States Bank in the City of New York as in your wisdom you may deem necessary, and the importance of the subject demands.

Adopted by the Chamber of Commerce on the 2<sup>d</sup> of April 1835, and ordered to be transmitted to Congress.

Extract from the minutes.

Attest  
Joseph M. Wadmore  
Secretary

President



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Adopted by the Chamber of Commerce on the 2<sup>d</sup> of April 1831, and ordered to be transmitted to Congress.

Extract from the minutes.

Attest

Prosp. M. Moore  
Secretary

President



Chamber of Commerce  
New York December 5<sup>th</sup> 1844

click  
Sir

At a meeting of this Chamber held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, it was ordered that a copy of the Memorial presented at the last Session of Congress, urging the establishment of a Branch Mint in this City, be transmitted to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury. In accordance with this direction we have now the honor to hand you a copy of the Memorial in question, and to request in behalf of the important interests involved that it may receive your favorable consideration.

Very respectfully

We have the honor to be

Your most obedient Servants

Jas. D. Ogden  
President

Prosper M. Wetmore  
Secy

Hon. George M. Bibb  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington